

# Huskies Illustrated

April 1989 ■ \$2.75

## ***SPRING FLING***

**QBs HIGHLIGHT  
PRACTICE**

***PROFILE:  
DOUG GLASER***

**ANOTHER  
N.I.T. BID**

***BIG EIGHT  
RECRUITING  
RECAP***





**You could look for better insurance, but you'd just be spinning your wheels.** Dairyland Motorcycle Insurance offers good rates, good service, and a way to spread out premium payments. There's even a way to get a full year's protection for less than a full year's premium. So talk to one of our 40,000 Independent Agents.

**And stop spinning your wheels.**

**Dairyland<sup>®</sup>  
Insurance**



**Motorcycle Insurance.  
Good rates for good riders.**

In Texas, available through Dairyland County Mutual Insurance Company.



# LUCK.



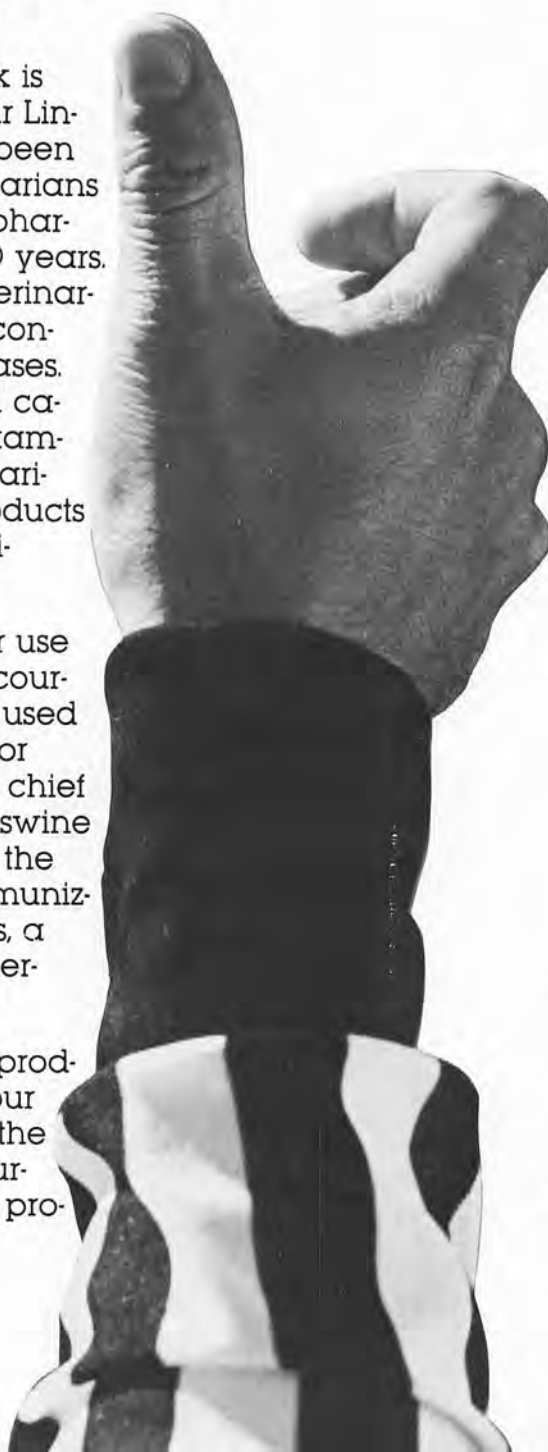
**Don't depend on it  
when it comes to protecting  
your pets and livestock.**

For the most reliable animal care, see your veterinarian. By training and experience, he is best qualified to protect your animals against sickness and disease.

Helping in this important work is Norden Laboratories. From our Lincoln headquarters, we have been supplying the nation's veterinarians with quality biologicals and pharmaceuticals for more than 60 years. Many of our products are veterinarians' number one choice for controlling common animal diseases. Norden's rabies vaccines and canine heartworm tablets, for example, are used by more veterinarians than any competitive products manufactured for the same diseases.


Other Norden products are for use in food-producing animals. 'Scour-Guard 3' and 'Life-Guard' are used extensively in cattle country for controlling neonatal scours, a chief cause of calf mortality. In the swine belt, 'PR-Vac' is recognized as the most effective vaccine for immunizing pigs against pseudorabies, a costly disease of the central nervous and respiratory system.

These and other fine Norden products are available through your veterinarian. Contact him for the game plan best suited to ensuring your animals' health and productivity.



**N**  
**NORDEN**  
**LABORATORIES**  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501 U.S.A.





The Fellowship of  
Christian Athletes  
encourages the heroes of  
the sports world to be  
positive influences to the  
youth of America. You do  
not have to be an athlete  
to be a positive influence.  
You can help the  
Fellowship of Christian  
Athletes by becoming a  
supporting member. Write  
to the Fellowship of  
Christian Athletes, P.O.  
Box 711, Milford, Nebraska  
68405 or call Wendell  
Conover at (402) 761-3166.

Archie Linell

*Archie Linell*



# CONTENTS

April 1989 ■ Volume 9, Number 4

# Huskers Illustrated



- 
- 26 **CHANGING OF THE GUARD** By Ken Hambleton  
Veteran assistant John Melton retires, and Kevin Steele steps in.
- 
- 30 **NO PAIN, NO GAIN** By Rod Henkel  
Doug Glaser endured frustrations to become a star.
- 
- 34 **UNSETTLING SCORES** By Mike Babcock  
When should you try to score, and when do you back off?
- 
- 42 **LEANER AND MEANER** By Paul Hammel  
NU's strength program plans to change excess baggage into raw power.
- 

7	LETTERS	22	RECRUITING BY REGIONS
10	STATE OF THE HUSKERS/Mike Babcock	40	CONFIDENTIALLY
16	HUSKER HOOPS / Mike Babcock	46	ASK TOM

On the cover: Gerry Gdowski (14) enters spring practice as the leading quarterback candidate. Photo by John Bills.

## Executive Board of Advisors

Donald R. Peterson, FirstTier, Omaha	Nebraska Touchdown Club
Fern Spencer, FirstTier, Lincoln	Occidental Nebraska, Omaha
John Crane, Great Plains Pkg. Co., Hastings	J. Richard Spellman, Cliffs Notes, Inc., Lincoln
Lee H. Sapp, Lee Sapp Enterprises, Omaha	Al Gilmore, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Neb, Omaha
Lee A. Sapp, Lee's Ford-Mercury, Ashland	Nick Vuko, Walker Tire, Lincoln
Tom Cullinane, Southwest Tire, Omaha	Ren Smith, Reynold S. Smith Marketing, Omaha
Rick Heuertz, Mid-Continent Bottlers, Omaha	Thomas Wilkinson, Mass Mutual Life, Omaha
Mike Strohmman, Mid-Continent Bottlers, Omaha	Jack Campbell, Mass Mutual Life, Lincoln
Mike McCaleb, Guarantee Mutual Life, Omaha	Kathy McMichael, Husker Heaven, Omaha
E.A. Conley, Guarantee Mutual Life, Omaha	Kelly J. Wills, Exhaust Pros, Omaha
Jerry Gabelman, Dairyland Insurance, Lincoln	Jerry Sims, York Manufacturing, York, Neb.
Art Thompson, Lincoln Telephone, Lincoln	Douglas Theatre Co., Lincoln
Hal Joyner, Lincoln Tour & Travel, Lincoln	David Dier, M.A.D., INK, Lincoln
Don Dinkelman, Lincoln Tour & Travel, Lincoln	Donald Campbell, First Commerce Savings, Lincoln
Bill Carley, Lincoln Tour & Travel, Lincoln	D. Doc Chaves, Ameritas Financial Services, Lincoln
Susan Stoehr, N Street Drive-In, Lincoln	Dean Jessick, Husker Glass, Inc., Omaha
Cecil Metzger, Norden Labs, Lincoln	Ron Richards, TopTen Productions, Boystown, Neb.
Ken Wilson, New York Life, Lincoln	First Federal Lincoln, Lincoln
Mel Adema, New York Life, Sioux City	Carl Andersen, Reynold S. Smith Marketing, Omaha
Kurt Kollmorgen, New York Life, Lincoln	Gary Novotny, Nebraska Sports Graphics, Hastings
Jerry Roberts, New York Life, Omaha	Gary Michael's Clothiers, Hastings
Don Spinar, Security Mutual Life, Lincoln	Howard Misle, Park Place Pontiac / Cadillac / GMC / Mercedes Benz, Lincoln
Lyle E. Ehrke, Dillon Inn, Lincoln	Thomas M. Price, Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest, Lincoln
Larry Snyder, Snyder Industries, Lincoln	

## Huskers Illustrated

A Sports Magazines of America, Inc. publication

### PUBLISHER:

Mike Henry

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

Charles Brackin

### OPERATIONS COORDINATOR:

Melania C. Ross

### EDITOR:

Mark Owens

**CONTRIBUTING EDITORS:** Mike Babcock, Don Bryant, Bill Callahan, Ken Hambleton, Paul Hammel, Rod Henkel, Don Lee, Virgil Parker, Chuck Pool, Pat Quinn.

### CORRESPONDENT:

Kevin Henry

### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:

John Bills, Kent Morgan Olsen

### ART DIRECTOR:

Tim Stephens

### PRODUCTION:

Dana Hervey, Dina Dunn

### CONTROLLER:

David Brandenburg

### PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR, MARKETING DIRECTOR:

M.E. Johnson

### CIRCULATION:

Catherine Wheeler, Mary Janus

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Debbie Gahm

## Huskers Illustrated

Volume 9, Number 4

(ISSN 0279-3474) is published weekly during football season and monthly the rest of the year, except no issue in May and a combined issue for June/July, plus occasional special issues by Sports Magazines of America, Inc. Offices are located at 7633 E. 63rd Place, Suite 420, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133. Telephone: 918/250-6799. Reproduction or use of editorial or graphic content in any manner without permission is prohibited. Photographs and manuscripts for publications are welcomed, but will not be acknowledged or returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The publisher assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. Address all subscription inquiries and changes of address to Huskers Illustrated, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501. Allow six to eight weeks for response. Give old and new address and enclose latest mailing address label when writing about your subscription. Lithoed in U.S.A. Second class postage paid at Tulsa, Oklahoma. Subscription rates: U.S. and possessions, \$39.90 for one year; foreign countries, \$49.90 for one year; single copy, \$2.75.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Huskers Illustrated, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.

MEMBER



908 South Hill Street, Montgomery, AL 36104  
(205) 534-8802 / FAX (205) 263-0407

## LETTERS

### RECRUITING MANIA

Dear Huskers:

Your recruiting up-dates are most enjoyable. For some of us, letter-of-intent signing is one of the most exciting days of the football season.

It would be great if you could have even more in *Huskers Illustrated* about potential recruits. Pictures of the various high school players would be nice, though it would probably be hard to get them.

Whatever happened to Brian Boerboom, a top lineman from Colorado Springs, Colo. Wasn't he supposed to be good enough to play right away?

Charles Upchurch  
Virginia, Minn.

Charles: Brian Boerboom is an extremely talented offensive lineman. He redshirted last season and figures prominently in Nebraska's future plans, as Cornhusker offensive line coach Milt Tenopir indicated in a recent story in

*Huskers Illustrated*. Tenopir said Boerboom and Erik Weigert, another offensive lineman who redshirted, could both challenge for starting positions during the spring.

Very few offensive linemen play at Nebraska without first spending a red-shirt season. That's what makes center Jake Young and tackle Doug Glaser unique. Both were true juniors last fall.

### A CHEER FOR JUNIOR

Dear Huskers:

Hooray for Junior Miller. It sounds like he's got his life in order. He should be commended for having the courage to face his problems.

Nebraska has never had a better tight end than him, and it's evident he's applied the same determination to his life off the field as he did on it.

Sometimes we forget that football players are people, too, with problems just like everybody else. There's more to life than catching passes and scoring

touchdowns. The *Huskers Illustrated* story on Junior certainly expressed that very well.

Good luck to Junior.  
Raymond Ackerman  
Springfield, Mo.

### NO. 89

Dear Huskers:

In your story on Junior Miller I noticed that he wore No. 89, the same number as Broderick Thomas. Junior Miller was a tight end and Broderick was a defensive end. Is there any rule for who can wear certain numbers?

Darlon Mickel  
Lincoln, Neb.

Darlon: There is no restriction on the No. 89. Glen Abbott, Nebraska's equipment manager, says he often tries to alternate numbers between offensive and defensive players to avoid confusion, though. For example, Rod Smith, a split end who completed his eligibility last

## Get a grip on your financial future.



Health and exercise is all the rage these days. Just as important to a healthy, happy life though is your fiscal fitness. Ameritas Investment Corp can help you put together a program that will meet and, in many cases, exceed your financial goals while working with your resources.

Our staff of friendly, professional brokers takes the time to know your needs and means in a financial program. Then we recommend the investments that match up best to your personal requirements.

Get a better grip on your fiscal fitness. Talk with Ameritas Investment Corp. Your healthy, happy financial future can start **today**.

**AMERITAS**   
INVESTMENT CORP

**SIPC**  
Securities Investor Protection Corp.

Lincoln  
(402) 466-4565  
800-742-2209 NE  
800-228-8712 USA

Omaha  
(402) 330-6710  
800-233-9132 NE  
800-848-9566 USA

season, wore No. 88. In 1988, Mike Croel, an outside linebacker, wore No. 88.

It's not always possible to make such changes from offense to defense or vice versa, according to Abbott. But he occasionally tries to do that.

#### STILL COUNTING

Dear Huskers:

Twenty-seven consecutive winning

seasons. That shows who the best team in college football is. And it doesn't appear Nebraska's record string will soon be broken.

Brewster Morell  
Scottsbluff, Neb.

#### KEN'S THE BEST

Dear Huskers:

Oklahoma State fans can talk all they want about Barry Sanders. We've got

Ken Clark, who ought to be considered for the Heisman Trophy next season.

Who else will play I-back next season for the Huskers? Wasn't there a pretty good I-back in this year's recruiting class named Ernie Beler? What ever happened to him? Thank you very much.

Perry Staab

Big Spring, Tex.

Perry: Hopefully, Terry Rodgers will recover sufficiently to join Clark at I-back next fall. Leodis Flowers will compete for the job during the spring, as will George Achola, who redshirted this season. Scott Baldwin is a good freshman I-back. Beler, who's from Bayonne, N.J., had to sit out this season because of the NCAA's Proposition 48. However, Beler has enrolled in classes and could be eligible to practice and play in the fall. The Cornhuskers have some good young talent at I-back.

#### BENEFIT AUCTION

The Eighth Annual Spring Husker Preview, a benefit for the Nebraska Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, is slated for April 9 at the Holiday Inn Central in Omaha.

The "Preview" is a longtime favorite among Cornhusker fans because the evening is centered around a memorabilia auction. "We not only have items from the Huskers, but from our 1988 opponents, pro football, baseball and basketball teams," said Pam Monsky, executive director for the Nebraska Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Office.

"Last year we had several autographed footballs, helmets, jerseys and pictures," said Monsky. "If you love the Huskers, you can't afford to miss this one. It's like owning a piece of the team."

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation honors senior players in five categories, including academic, offensive and defensive linemen and offensive and defensive backs.

The Cornhusker Cornerstone Award is also awarded to the person who has made the most significant impact on the University of Nebraska Athletic Department. The recipient, selected by the coaches and staff of the athletic depart-

# Custom Calling and Touch Calling From LT&T

## Custom Calling

**Speed Calling**—Dial frequently called numbers at a touch of one or two buttons. It's faster than dialing all the numbers and reduces errors too. Available with 8-number or 30-number capacity.

**Call Waiting**—You can answer a second call when you are already on the phone. Call Waiting eliminates the worry of missing an important call.

**3-Way Calling**—You can talk to two other people at the same time.

**Call Forwarding**—You can answer calls to your phone at another local or long distance location. Be sure to get your calls no matter where you are.

## Touch Calling

Dial your phone faster with fewer errors. It's easier too.



**Lincoln Telephone**  
**Your communication connection.**

\* Custom Calling is not currently available to all LT&T customers. Call your local business office for more information.



ment, have included Lyle Bremsler, Bob Devaney and Dean Kratz.

The Preview begins with a cocktail period at 6:30 p.m. Fans can view the 1989 recruiting film, browse the auction items and mingle with the coaches and players.

Of course, the high point of the program is the auction. In 1988, the highest priced item was Dean Steinkuhler's retired No. 71 50th Anniversary Orange Bowl Classic jersey, bringing \$825.

The preview is expected to raise \$15,000 for cystic fibrosis, a genetic lung disease that, until recently, ended the lives of its victims in their early teens. Today, through research, CF patients are living into their twenties, and there is every reason to expect a cure in the next five to 10 years.

Tickets to the Spring Husker Preview are \$40 each. Reservations for a party of 10 are \$350. For more information, or to order tickets, call the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at (402) 330-6164.

#### ON THE LOOKOUT

Dear Huskers:

I am looking for a videotape of the 1988 Nebraska-Colorado game telecast on Denver's KCNC Channel 4.

Steve Boschult  
1420 South 126th  
Omaha, NE 68501

#### CLASS ACT

Dear Huskers:

I am a 15-year-old Husker fan living in Miami. It's not easy living in 'Cane country, and the defeat didn't make it any easier. But after a long, five-year wait, my dream of meeting the team in person came true. Believe me, class-wise they are head and shoulders above the 'Canes.

For all the fans who are disappointed by the defeat, there is no need to worry. Although the loss of people like Broderick, Steve and LeRoy hurts, next year's schedule guarantees an 11-0 season, and we'll have a chance to show the 'Canes

who's really No. 1. Go Huskers!  
Carlos Kazemi  
Miami Beach, Fla.

#### MORE PLAYERS

Dear Huskers:

I wish to commend you on your fine magazine, as it is about my only source of keeping up with the Huskers.

In your 1988 College Football Yearbook (the double issue) you did an in-depth interview with Dr. Tom, which was both enjoyable and very informative. What I would like to see is in-depth interviews with the players more often so we could learn more about our great Huskers.

Don Samuels  
Hammond, Ind.

*We want to hear your comments and answer your questions. Address them to "Letters," P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501. ■*

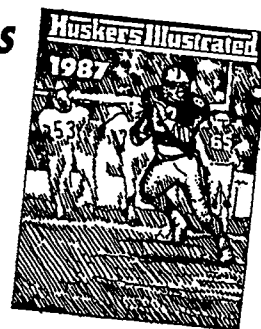
## ATTENTION! **Huskers Illustrated** COLLECTORS

**An exclusive collection of HUSKER HISTORY can be yours. Take advantage of our "BACK ISSUE BONANZA OFFER!"**

Normally back issues of *HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED* sell for \$4.00 each. But with this offer, you can get over 30 issues in one package for a total cost of only \$49.95. You'll receive some of the very first issues of *HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED* ever published, from 1981 forward. Plus, we'll also include "Devaney and Friends," the book personally written by Devaney about his life in college football—truly a collector's item.

If you would like to take advantage of this offer, fill out the order form below and enclose payment. This "BACK ISSUE BONANZA" package is ready to be shipped immediately upon receipt of your order. Quantities are limited and orders will be filled on a first-received, first-filled basis.

Maybe you have a friend or relative who's a HUSKER fanatic. If so, this is the perfect gift. . . An exclusive collection of HUSKER HISTORY, unavailable from any other source, which includes stories on the stars before they were stars, statistics, the big games and countless color photos which can only be found in *HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED*. Order your "BACK ISSUE BONANZA" package today.



#### HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED BACK ISSUE BONANZA PACKAGE

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ BACK ISSUE BONANZA Packages. I understand I'll receive at least 30 back issues along with a FREE copy of "Devaney and Friends" with each \$49.95 order. My method of payment is indicated below.

☐ Check or Money Order  
☐ Charge my credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard  
Card No./Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED, P.O. Box 83222  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501**

## STATE OF THE HUSKERS

By Mike Babcock

# Par for the Course

SUPER SENIORS HAVE LEFT, BUT SPRING PRACTICE STILL FEATURES PLENTY OF TALENT.

Who's No. 1 at quarterback?

Tom Osborne will, no doubt, grow weary of answering that question this spring.

The departure of Steve Taylor for the Edmonton Eskimos of the Canadian Football League will create a more in-

teresting than usual spring for Nebraska, which hasn't faced a similar situation since 1984, when Turner Gill completed his Cornhusker career and moved on to the Canadian league.

Quarterback is the obvious focal point of Nebraska's spring practice.

It's "the major concern we probably have at this point," Osborne told a group of about 50 writers at the NCAA's College Football '89 Preview in Kansas City, Mo., in mid-February.

That's understandable given the fact Taylor started for three seasons and twice was named All-Big Eight. Replacing him won't be easy. "Any time you go in (to a season) with that situation, you're a little less sure of what kind of team you're going to have," said Osborne.

Not that the Cornhuskers are without talented players at quarterback.

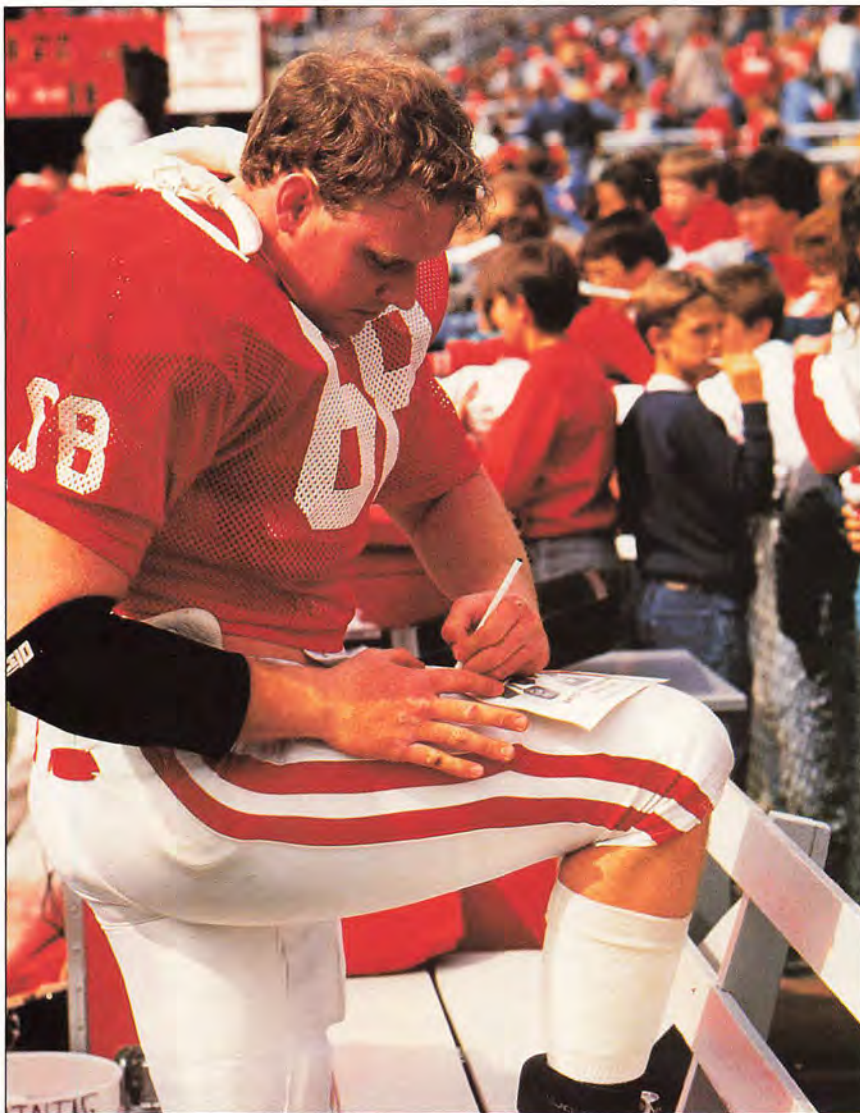
Gerry Gdowski, a senior from Fremont, Neb., has some experience, and sophomore Mickey Joseph is "very talented," according to Osborne. "Those would probably be the top two candidates" going into the spring. "We have a couple of others who could enter into the picture as well," he said.

Among those others are Keithen McCant, a redshirted sophomore from Grand Prairie, Tex.; Mike Grant, a sophomore from Brandon, Fla.; Tom Haase, a sophomore from Aurora, Neb.; and Jerry Dunlap, a junior from Ventura, Calif.

Haase and Dunlap are walkons.

Depending on how spring practice goes, either Grant or Haase, or both, could redshirt. But any decision on that is a long way off. Like the others, they'll both have a chance to make the team during five weeks of practice, which was scheduled to begin on April 3 and conclude with the annual Red-White intrasquad scrimmage April 29.

Naturally, the quarterback situation will attract the most attention. But that doesn't mean the competition at other positions will be any less spirited. The Cornhusker coaches have considerable work to do and many questions to answer before the team assembles in mid-



Jake Young is the offense's star attraction.



August to begin preparations for the 1989 season.

In addition to a quarterback, Nebraska must find three new interior linemen and a tight end on offense.

Defensively, the Cornhuskers must restructure the interior line, settle on inside linebackers and rebuild a secondary hit hard by graduation.

They also must find someone capable of filling the emotional void created by the departure of All-America outside linebacker Broderick Thomas, who was to the defense what Taylor was to the offense the last three years.

Nebraska has the fewest returning starters of any Big Eight team. Depending on how you count them, the Cornhuskers have nine or 10.

That's about par for the course. "We'll usually lose about half our starters," said Osborne.

Included in the group of returnees are I-back Ken Clark, who rushed for 1,497 yards to earn honorable mention All-America from the Associated Press, United Press International and *The Sporting News*, and center Jake Young, a first-team All-America selection by the Football Writers Association of America and the Associated Press.

They provide Osborne with a solid base on which to build his offense.

Clark, a senior from Omaha, "really hit his stride" during conference play last fall, according to Osborne. "Ken played very well down the stretch."

Clark ranked second in the Big Eight and fifth in the nation in rushing, averaging 6.5 yards per carry and 125 yards per game, including a career-high 256 against Oklahoma State.

If Barry Sanders hadn't been in the conference, Clark might have drawn considerably more attention.

"He certainly wasn't a Barry Sanders, but he was in that same general vicinity," Osborne said.

Clark was a major reason Nebraska ranked No. 1 in Division I of the NCAA in rushing offense for the fifth time during the 1980s.

That doesn't mean he can coast through spring practice, though. He'll face stiff competition from a group of young I-backs, among them Leodis Flowers and George Achola, redshirted sophomores.



Led by Jeff Mills, the outside linebacking corps appears solid.

Terry Rodgers will miss the spring because of the knee injury that sidelined him most of last season, and the hard-luck junior might not be ready for the start of fall camp Aug. 17. But there's a good chance he'll be able to play by the Big Eight season.

Scott Baldwin, the leading rusher on the junior varsity as a freshman, is another of the young I-backs who will

get a good look during the spring.

The Cornhuskers have a returning starter at fullback in Bryan Carpenter, who took over the job after Sam Schmidt suffered a broken ankle in the loss to UCLA. Schmidt will join Carpenter to give Nebraska experienced depth at fullback. Both are seniors.

Lance Lewis, a sophomore, also has a year's experience, as does junior Tim



Johnk, which means last year's junior varsity fullbacks, Jerry Kleidosty and Andre McDuffy, who also played I-back, might decide to redshirt. Again, that decision is a long way off.

Assuming sophomore Nate Turner remains at split end, senior Richard Bell, a returning starter, is the only experienced wingback.

But Tyrone Hughes, the Louisiana high school Offensive Player of the Year

in 1987, is expected to contribute immediately at wingback, after sitting out the fall as a redshirt. Hughes was good enough to play with the varsity as a freshman, but the Cornhuskers were solid at wingback last season. With him and Bell, they should be again.

Morgan Gregory, another returning starter, heads the list at split end. The senior from Denver led Nebraska in receiving last season, with 20 catches

for 239 yards and two touchdowns. He also led the team in punt returns, with a 16.9-yards-per-return average.

Turner and senior Chip Bahe provide quality depth at split end. Sophomore Jon Bostick will get a good look at the position in the spring as well.

The most prominent players in the competition at tight end this spring figure to be junior Monte Kratzenstein, sophomore Chris Garrett and William Washington, a redshirt freshman.

Filling the shoes of Todd Millikan, a three-year starter, won't be easy.

Young and senior tackle Doug Glaser, who was named All-America honorable mention by *The Sporting News*, are the foundation on which next season's line will be built. They'll work with a lot of new players on the first unit this spring, among them juniors Tom Punt, Steve Engstrom and Jim Wanek.

Terry Eyman, another junior, and redshirt sophomores Brian Boerboom and Erik Wiegert figure to be involved in the competition as do seniors John Roschal, Bill Bobbora and Chris O'Gara.

Defensively, among the most pressing questions to be answered in the spring probably relate to the line, a similar situation to the one a year ago.

Cornhusker defensive coordinator Charlie McBride's first concern is solidifying noseguard.

Senior Mike Murray has starting experience there, with Junior Monarrez and Brian Edgren also in line. McBride has indicated he might move a tackle, too, either Joe Sims or Kent Wells.

"Joe probably has a little better balance, so my first thought would be to move him," says McBride.

Obviously, if either Sims, a junior, or Wells, a senior, does move to middle guard, the picture changes at tackle, where junior Paul Brungardt is the only other player with any experience.

Junior Pat Engelbert, redshirt sophomore Brian Brown and redshirt freshman Dave Jensen are among the defensive linemen who could emerge during spring practice.

Junior Kenny Walker, whose progress has been slowed because he's deaf, appears to have found a home at defensive tackle, after trying both outside and inside linebacker.



**Tackle Kent Wells (91) has the talent to also star at noseguard if needed.**



If he can continue to learn the position, "I think he'll help us," McBride says. Walker, an outstanding athlete, has been electronically timed at 4.78 in the 40-yard dash.

Sophomore Jeremiah Clark could make a good impression in the spring, too.

Despite the absence of Thomas, the Cornhuskers appear to be solid at outside linebacker, with senior Jeff Mills, a returning starter, and junior Mike Croel expected to hold down the starting jobs through the spring.

They won't be able to relax, though, with freshmen Travis Hill and David White eager to get going after redshirting in the fall.

Junior walkon Dan Svehla also is in the picture on the outside.

Inside, only four scholarship linebackers will go through spring practice: seniors Chris Caliendo and Randall Jobman, junior Pat Tyrance and sophomore Mike Petko. Caliendo is the lone return-

**Richard Bell brings extensive experience to the wingback position.**



## ***"We've been where you're going."***

*"You'll be confident in the knowledge that your vacation will run smoothly when you arrange your trip through Lincoln Tour and Travel. That's because we've personally inspected almost every itinerary on every four to make sure you'll get more than your money's worth. Everything has met our high standards, so you know in advance that they'll meet your high expectations."*

*"Before you make arrangements with another travel agent, ask if all the details have been thoroughly examined firsthand. You'll see that no one can give you as much travel confidence as Lincoln Tour and Travel. Discover for yourself why we're better. Call Lincoln Tour and Travel today."*

### **Five Convenient Locations**

**FirstTier Bank Building, 13th & M.....474-4111**  
**Gateway Plaza.....464-5902**  
**Lincoln Municipal Airport.....474-7111**  
**330 South 13th Street.....474-4111**  
**3201 Pioneers, Suite 31.....489-2277**

**Toll Free: NE 800-742-7334**

**Other States: 800-228-4395**

## ***Travel with Confidence.***



ing starter there. Seniors Brad Ferguson and Mark Hagge will be in the thick of the spring competition.

Junior strong safety Reggie Cooper, another who was named honorable mention All-America by *The Sporting News*, is the only returning starter in the secondary, and cornerbacks Bruce Pickens and Tahaun Lewis are the only others there with experience.

Still, defensive backs coach George Darlington is optimistic. "I've seen enough to expect us to be really good in the secondary," he says.

Among the others on whom Darlington's assessment is based are senior

Marvin Sanders; sophomores Curtis Cotton, Tyrone Legette, Steve Carmer and Will Thomas; and redshirt freshman Tyrone Byrd. Legette, a little-publicized scholarship recruit out of Columbia, S.C., was a pleasant surprise on the junior varsity in the fall.

Senior Chris Drennan and junior Gregg Barrios will continue their competition for the job as the No. 1 kicker during the spring, with the punting job wide open following the graduation of three-year regular John Kroeker.

In addition to their good-natured personal competition, Drennan and Barrios must also adapt to a rules change that

will significantly affect them in the fall. At its mid-January meeting, the NCAA Football Rules Committee adopted a rule that will eliminate the use of kicking tees on field goals and point-after kicks.

As is the case every spring, some new names will emerge. Maybe Freeman White or Darin Duin, strong safeties; Kylin Camp or Paul Wightman, outside linebackers; Andy Hansen or Kent Anthony, offensive guards; or Bill Ziegelbein, a center.

Everyone gets a chance.

Nebraska has much to accomplish in the spring if the Cornhuskers are to successfully defend their Big Eight championship next fall.

Despite its many recent off-the-field problems, Oklahoma will be as good or better than it was last season, according to Osborne.

"I think many people probably will underestimate Oklahoma," he said. "I know Barry Switzer felt this next year he'd have a very strong team, and I suspect he still will have.

"He's got a lot of good athletes; a lot of them are young. And I don't think they'll be worse than last year. Losing (quarterback) Charles Thompson will be a factor, of course. It's like our losing Steve Taylor."

Still, "I think they'll be better."

Colorado probably will be, too. The Buffaloes have more returning starters, 19, than any conference team. "They have most of the key ingredients from their team returning, and I thought they were very strong last year," Osborne said. "Their bowl game (a 20-17 loss to BYU) was disappointing to them. But they were among the very best teams we saw, among the top two or three."

Oklahoma State's potential rests a lot on whether or not Sanders returns, of course. But quarterback Mike Gundy "is a tremendous player, and their defense will be better," said Osborne.

Nebraska, which probably will receive its annual high ranking in the preseason polls, has many questions to be answered this spring. But none are of more interest than the one regarding the starting quarterback.

The irony is, it might not have a definitive answer until "two or three games into the season," Osborne said. ■



**Injured against UCLA, fullback Sam Schmidt should be available this spring.**



# Wait a minute!

## Is this your copy of Huskers Illustrated?

Are you still borrowing your friend's issue of Huskers Illustrated? That would be like blocking his view of a touch-down play or stealing his seat on the 50-yard line. Well, we can't blame you for wanting to get in on all the excitement of the 1989 season, but we'd like to offer you a chance to receive Huskers Illustrated for yourself. Subscribe now and get 18 colorful, concise, 48-page magazines all year long. We give you weekly issues previewing



and reviewing each game and you'll receive monthly issues in the off-season. Plus, you'll get our giant 164-page Preseason Annual absolutely FREE!

And in January, we'll give you a Husker Calendar and Schedule absolutely FREE!

So, complete the form below and mail it today, or call our toll-free number below to subscribe.

Nobody covers Husker Football better than Huskers Illustrated!

**YES!** Start my subscription to *Huskers Illustrated* now so I'll have my own 18 issues (12 months) for only \$39.90.

☐ Check Enclosed      ☐ Charge my Credit Card:    ☐ MC      ☐ Visa      ☐ Bill Me

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

The toll-free number below is for subscription orders only. Send address changes to:

## **Huskers Illustrated**

Subscription Service Center, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501

Call our toll-free number, 1-800-341-1522 and subscribe NOW!  
For subscription inquiries, call 918-250-6882

By Mike Babcock

# Growing Bit by Bit

NU IMPROVED AND ENJOYED ANOTHER NIT BID  
DESPITE STRUGGLING IN THE BIG EIGHT.

At his Monday news conference in the final week of the regular season, Nebraska basketball coach Danny Nee was asked to compare this year's team, his third, to the one a year ago.

His response was immediate. "There's no comparison," Nee said.

The program is much more mature.

Wait a minute, you might say. The Cornhuskers' record was better this season, but not that much better. And they didn't win a Big Eight road game during the regular season, extending their string to 11 conference losses on the road. Nebraska's last Big Eight victory on the road came Jan. 30, 1988, over

Colorado, 63-57.

Still, the Cornhuskers didn't play "really raunchy" on the road this season, according to Nee.

"We've been competitive."

Competitive enough, in fact, to get the second NIT bid in three years at Nebraska for Nee. They didn't "win pretty," but they were still winners. Besides, having problems on the road wasn't unique to Nebraska. Just about everyone else in the Big Eight had trouble away from home, too. Even league champ Oklahoma lost two road games.

Anyway, by season's end, Nee was upbeat about his team, playing home or

away. "We're capable of putting a good game together," he said.

The Cornhuskers' 97-59 victory over Colorado at the Sports Center was dramatic evidence of that.

The last time Nebraska defeated a conference team that badly was 1900, when it beat Kansas by 40 points (48-8). It was the second most decisive Cornhusker victory since Nee became head coach.

The 97 points were a season high and the most since Nee's first year, when the Cornhuskers scored 97 in a loss to Oklahoma. Nebraska's 61 percent field-goal shooting also was a season high.

The Cornhuskers hit six of seven shots to start the game, jumping ahead 15-2, and they finished the first half by scoring the final 17 points.

"We went out and played as hard as we could," said Nebraska junior Ray Richardson, who scored 17 points.

Cornhusker sophomore Beau Reid had a game-high 21 points, pulled down seven rebounds and made five assists.

And Rich King, another sophomore, hauled in eight rebounds in just a little over half the game.

Granted, Colorado finished last in the Big Eight. But that didn't diminish the victory. The Buffaloes had beaten Nebraska in Boulder, 83-80, and by the time they came to Lincoln, Cornhusker fans had begun to wonder if their team would win again in 1988-89.

Nebraska finished seventh in the Big Eight, with a 4-10 record, the same as last season. But the truth is, the Cornhuskers probably would have been a first-division team in several other conferences. Arch-rival Creighton, which lost to Nebraska in both teams' season-opener, went on to win the Missouri Valley title.

Success is relative to the quality of



Danny Nee felt the offense was fine, but defense was a concern.



competition. And the Big Eight has been extremely competitive since Nee arrived from Ohio University in 1986.

Top to bottom, the conference may have been stronger this season than it was a year ago, when Kansas played Oklahoma for the NCAA championship, and Kansas State also was among the final eight in the NCAA tournament.

"I personally think one of our problems was competition," says Nee. "We were successful against people of our level, but we weren't successful against teams that were physically better than we were. The teams that beat us, physically beat us.

"We didn't beat one of those teams, and I think you have to raise up, pull yourself to the next level. You have to learn how to win in those situations."

In other words, Nebraska didn't pull any big upsets. By the same token, the Cornhuskers didn't lose very many games they should have won.

There were a couple, maybe. Nebraska went 12-4 in non-conference play but could easily have been 14-2. The Cornhuskers let Michigan State escape the Sports Center with a 77-75 victory, and they couldn't hold on against Louisiana State in the Chaminade New Year's Tournament and lost, 90-87.

"We played nose-to-nose with LSU, but we're not better than LSU," Nee says.

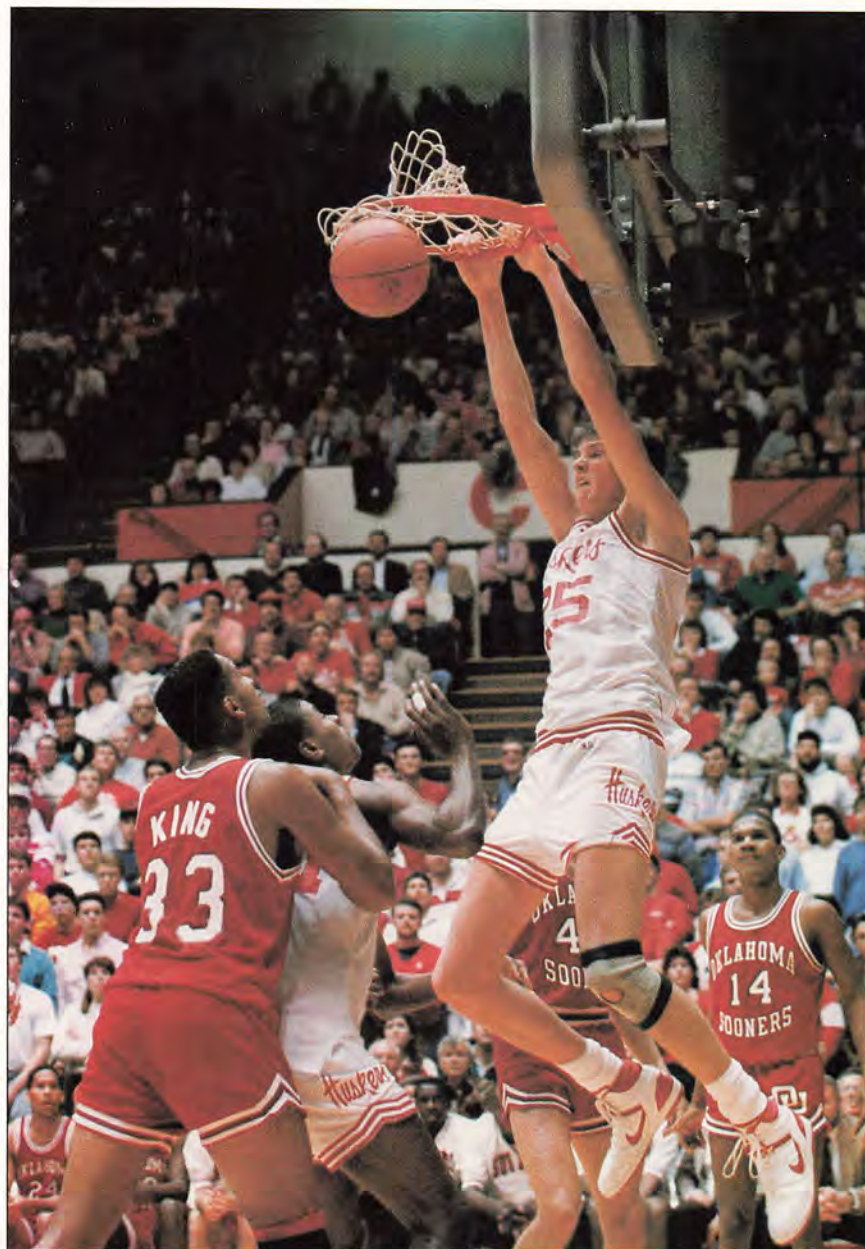
Keep in mind, though, Louisiana State was a 20-game winner this season.

Nebraska's other non-conference losses were both on the road, to Idaho, another 20-game winner, and Ohio State, which was one of the best teams in the Big Ten until guard Jay Burson was sidelined by a serious injury.

The Cornhuskers had a successful non-conference season, a fact that contributed to a reasonably good power rating by the time the Big Eight Tournament rolled around.

One of Nebraska's most impressive efforts, however, was a loss. The Cornhuskers gave nationally ranked Oklahoma a run for its money in their conference-opener at the Devaney Sports Center before falling, 89-81.

That was as close as Nebraska came to pulling a major upset, if you discount the loss to LSU. "But I don't want to be rewarded with one of those and then



**Rich King (25) returns as NU's leading rebounder.**

go in the tank," Nee said later in the season. "I'll take the turtle."

The quality of competition wasn't the only reason Nebraska finished seventh in the Big Eight and never defeated a physically superior opponent.

"I don't think our defense is good enough," Nee said after losing to Kansas State at home. "We're coming down against Kansas State and we score. Now, they're coming back up the floor and we can't stop them from scoring. Then they stop us once with good defense, not because of bad offense.

"We don't have that good defense.

That's simplistic, but . . ."

No need to complete the thought.

"We never did anything to stop Kansas State from scoring. That's the key. If you look for us to get better, we have to get better at the defensive end," said Nee. "Good defense means you stop fouling and you keep them on the perimeter. You don't allow them second shots. You always have a hand in their face, with good pressure on the ball."

The Cornhuskers' defensive problems included fouling too much, also a characteristic of their youth.

"When you have younger players, big





**Clifford Scales is one of five Huskers who return with significant starting experience from this 1988-89 NIT squad.**

guys especially, they're always going to be foul prone. I think you foul when you have bigger, younger people, consistently. I don't care what level you're at," says Nee.

"Then, I think, there's an intelligence factor, experience, knowing in a game what you can get away with and what you can't get away with. I don't think my

players have the experience in game conditions to understand: 'Hey, away from the ball, sometimes you can really check a guy hard when the shot's going up.'

"But if you do that same thing when the guy's cutting through the lane, you blatantly bump him, the referee has to call it. I think those kinds of things con-

tribute to our fouling."

Nebraska's young players also had a tendency to reach instead of move on defense, which contributed to the foul problems, according to Nee.

"We'll get a couple of reaching fouls down the floor every game, and those will add up to put people in the one-and-one. That's something we really emphasized in practice, helping guys play position defense," Nee says.

At no point during the season did Nee and his assistant coaches panic.

"We're not running to the blackboard," he said. "We're pointing to certain things, staying with them."

Nee is committed to doing things the right way, building his program on a

## **Rich King showed signs of being the player Danny Nee calls the "future of the program."**

solid foundation. And because of that, the future is bright.

The right way begins with academics, according to Nee. Of last year's senior class, Henry Buchanan and Jeff Reke-weg already have earned their degrees, and Derrick Vick and Bill Johnson are expected to graduate in May.

All of this year's seniors are on pace to compete undergraduate degrees.

Nebraska had only four seniors this season: Eric Johnson, Pete Manning, Todd Koca and Matt Svehla. Koca and Svehla were walkons.

The Cornhuskers will have only two seniors next season: Richardson and Richard van Poelgeest, both of whom played key roles in 1988-89.

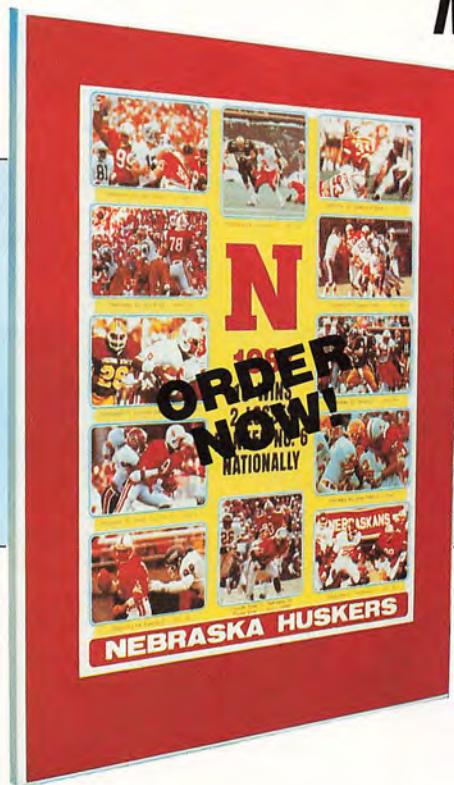
Richardson, a transfer from Hiwassee (Tenn.) Junior College, was the team's primary three-point shooter. He needed most of the non-conference season to adjust to Nee's system.

Just before the team left for Hawaii in late December, Nee sat down with Richardson and told him he didn't seem



# HUSKER FANS!

## RELIVE THE GREAT MOMENTS OF THE 1988 SEASON



**Order your Husker  
Commemorative Plaque NOW!**

**INCLUDES:**

*Color Photographs • Complete Statistics  
Team Roster • Big Eight Results  
Game-By Game Summaries*

### **A GREAT GIFT IDEA!**

**Our price is still \$39.95  
plus \$4.00 for shipping  
and handling.**

**T**his 13"x16" wall plaque is the eighth in our series and features color, action photos from each of the 12 Husker games of 1988 and the 1989 Orange Bowl. The photos are mounted on a top-grain, walnut board and laminated for lasting protection. On the back of each plaque you'll find complete results from each game of the 1988 season plus the 1988 Husker team roster, scores from all games of the Big Eight conference and game-by-game statistics. Each plaque is individually numbered and is one of a limited edition. Only 1,000 are made each year. We also personalize each plaque by adding a brass name plate, inscribed according to your wishes and mounted on the lower, front center of each plaque.

**YES!** I want to place my order for the 1988 Husker Commemorative Wall Plaque! I understand that if not completely satisfied, I may return the plaque and receive a full refund.

\*My Plaque No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I've enclosed my CHECK/MONEY ORDER

☐ Charge my credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

Charge No./Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\*IF PAST PLAQUES HAVE BEEN PURCHASED.

Mail To: HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501



to be ready to compete at the major college level. At the time, "I didn't agree," Richardson says. "But he was right. I didn't look at it from his point of view, and when I did, I started realizing that it was time for me to start working hard. You work hard for Coach Nee, or you don't play. That's the bottom line."

Van Poelgeest, the only player who's been in the program for three years, came on to earn a starting job and play an important role this season.

Along with the sophomores (Clifford

Scales, Reid and King), they figure to form the nucleus for next year's team.

Scales fought through a midseason slump and matured as an off-guard.

Reid was the team's most versatile player, as his performance in the 89-81 loss to Oklahoma illustrated. He scored 16 points, pulled down 12 rebounds and often brought the ball up court against the Sooners' pressing defense.

And King, well, he showed signs of being the player Nee calls the "future of the program." Like Reid, King had

one of his better efforts of the season against Oklahoma in Lincoln: 21 points, 10 rebounds, four blocked shots.

He can pass and run the floor. He has a good shooting touch and good range, and he rarely gets rattled.

Oh yes, and he stands 7-foot-2.

One night, on his radio call-in show, Nee said King had the potential to play in the NBA all-star game someday. "Our job (as coaches) is to bring that potential out," says Nee.

King improved dramatically from his freshman year, according to Nee. "I don't have a numerical scale from 1 to 10. We're just trying to get Rich to play to his strengths," he says.

"We have to get them all playing better, practicing better."

Freshmen Kelly Lively, another 7-footer, and Dapreis Owens, who's 6-8, both progressed as the season wore on, Lively perhaps more because he had the benefit of a redshirt season.

Sophomore Jed Bargen also contributed this season, to the team's cumulative grade-point average as well as on the court. He's an excellent student.

Nebraska's optimism is based on more than those who will return next season, however. In addition to a solid recruiting class, the Cornhuskers have two Proposition 48 players and two transfers in their plans.

The freshmen are Bruce Chubick, a 6-7 forward from Atkinson, Neb.; Jamie Cole, a 6-4 guard from Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Eric Piatkowski, a 6-6 forward from Rapid City, S.D., whose father, Walt, played professional basketball.

The Prop 48 players are Lewis Geter from Columbus, Ohio, and Carl Hayes from Westchester, Ill., both 6-7.

Geter earned a 3.2 grade-point average in his first semester at Nebraska, according to Nee. Hayes had a 2.7.

The transfers are Cris Creswell, a guard who began his college career at California-Irvine, and Johnny Benjamin, who enrolled at Nebraska at mid-season, after starting five games for Auburn during first semester.

Benjamin, a 6-2, 195-pound guard from Orlando, Fla., could be a key. Perhaps Nebraska's most glaring weakness this season was lack of a point guard and Benjamin could fill that



**Richard van Poelgeest was a solid contributor by year's end.**



void.

He'll be eligible in late December and will have two and a half seasons of eligibility with the Cornhuskers. "We're going to play him the minute he's ready," Nee said in announcing Benjamin's ar-

bounds and 12 assists per game.

Nebraska was one of three schools to which Benjamin made recruiting visits, the others being Auburn and Jacksonville. NU was his first choice, he said, but he went to Auburn because it was

**The Cornhuskers could easily have packed it in, but they didn't. Winning two of their final four regular-season games is evidence of that.**

rival from Auburn.

"He plays a position where we feel we have to improve...at point guard."

Benjamin averaged 52.4 points per game as a senior at Central Florida Academy, the second-highest average in prep history. He also averaged 14 re-

closer to home.

This season wasn't easy for Nee. "My patience is good," he says. "I just get mad. I'm a sore loser, and I just get mad about it. I get angry. Maybe that's not the good solution, but I don't think I'm impatient. I have a short fuse with this.

The losing bothers me, physically."

It bothered his team, too, but not to the extent that it quit trying. As the regular season wound down, Nee said, "it would be very easy for people to go through the motions. I think at this time of the year...it's very common for seniors and players just to be tired of it. But I don't sense that in any respect with our team."

The Cornhuskers could easily have packed it in, but they didn't. Winning two of their final four regular-season games and reaching the NIT is evidence of that.

Nebraska's first Big Eight victory, over Kansas, was televised on the conference's Raycom Network, for which former Kansas State coach Jack Hartman was a color analyst. During the telecast, Hartman remarked that he had watched the Cornhuskers practice the previous day. You would never have guessed their Big Eight record was 0-6 by the way they practiced, he said. ■

## A Great Front Line.

## A Great-Rate Line

**1-800-728-4242**  
(when calling in Omaha, 334-4500)

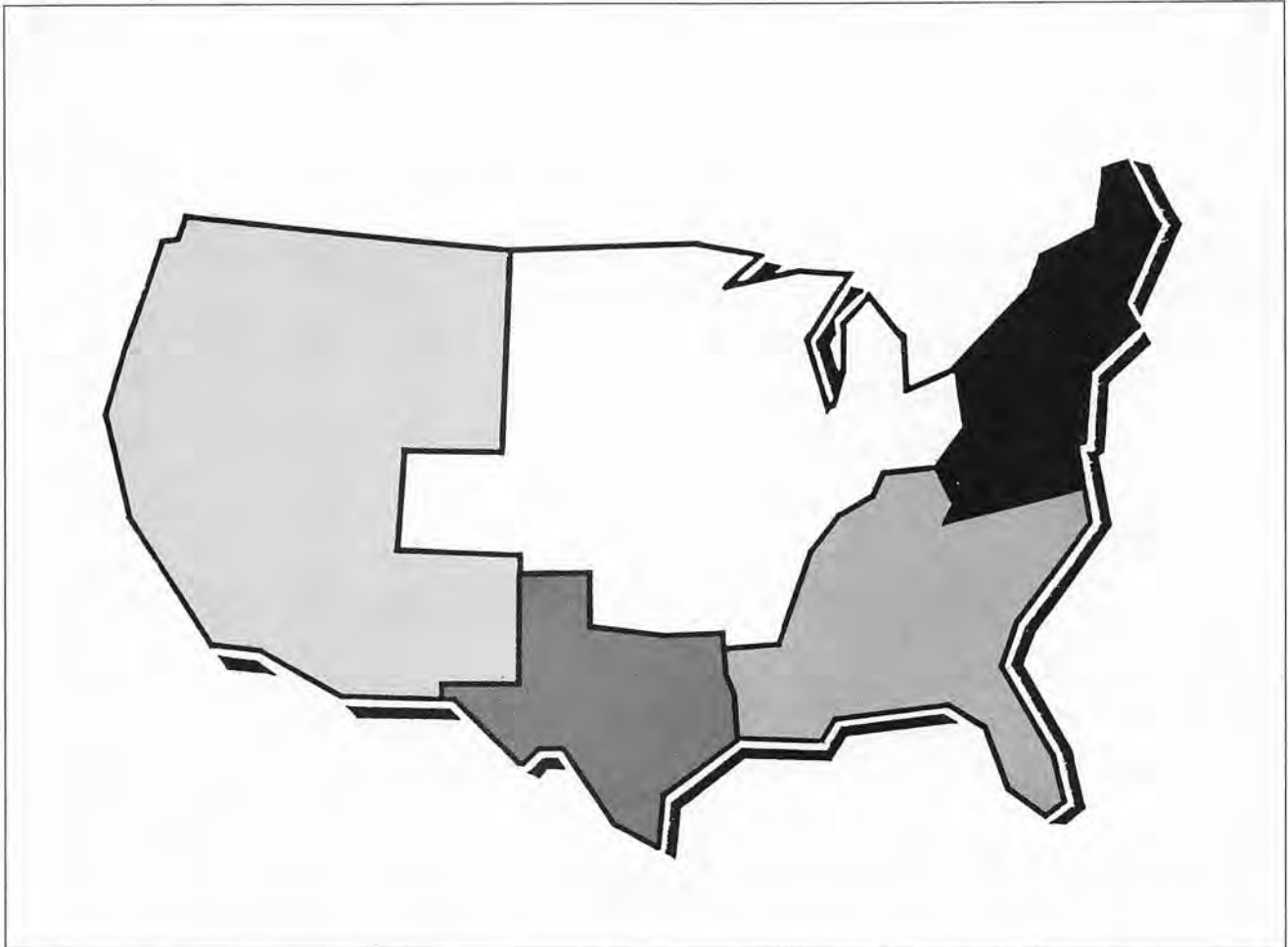
Nebraska has the Great Front Line.

We have the GREAT-RATES, day-in and day-out. And now you find out what those rates are, 24-hours a day, everyday! Call our toll-free Great-Rate Line to get up-to-the-minute quotes on some of the most competitive interest rates around on your savings deposit.



**OCCIDENTAL NEBRASKA**  
FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK

All deposits insured up to \$100,000 per account by the FDIC.



# Huskers Out-Ink Big Eight Rivals

In the same way that DNA molecules are the building blocks of humans, recruiting is the egg from which Big Eight championships may someday hatch.

In a year when the Big Eight was rocked by probations and scandals, league schools still pulled in plenty of stars, with the consensus being that the Huskers signed the best class.

Probations at Oklahoma and Oklahoma State let some talented players slip away. All-America defensive back James Trapp of Lawton chose Clemson (a 13-6 victor over OU in the 1989 Florida Citrus Bowl), and coveted running back Lamel Foreman of Del City took his services to Texas University. Despite the probation, however, Oklahoma landed another strong class. NCAA infractions struck much harder in Stillwater. OSU

did not land one of the top 400 players rated by Max Emfinger's scouting service, and *USA Today*, which graded the classes of its final Top 25 poll from last season, gave the Cowboy class a "C." Several verbal commitments changed their minds and abandoned the Cowboys.

Colorado fared quite well in recruiting, and Missouri seemingly has improved its chances of becoming a Big Eight contender. Even Kansas signed some quality players to help their cause. But Kansas State and Iowa State appear destined to remain in the lower ranks. It is hard to recruit quality players on the heels of a poor season. Take for instance the case of Maurice Benson. The star running back from Manhattan was named the Kansas Player of the Year, yet

Missouri came in and signed him. Once again, cries of "When does basketball start?" will be heard in Ames and Manhattan.

Nebraska, by the way, received a "B+" from *USA Today*, the best mark among Big Eight schools. Here's a brief rundown of the other Big Eight recruiting harvests:

### Colorado

The Buffaloes (coming off an 8-4 season and a Freedom Bowl appearance) were searching for interior linemen and skill players. They filled both needs. Colorado signed 6-foot-4, 305-pound Tamasi Amituani (*USA Today* All-America noseguard) and five other defensive linemen, including 6-6, 275-pound Marcellous Elder from Long



Beach, Calif., where *Prep Football Report* gave him All-America honors. Linebacker Ronnie Woolfork of Detroit received multiple All-America citations, giving the Buffs a strong defensive foundation.

Lineman Leonard Renfro (6-5, 280, 4.8) and linebackers Scott Phillips (6-3, 210, 4.6) and Rick Fisher (6-1, 218, 4.6) are also highly touted.

On offense, the Buffaloes landed Los Angeles quarterback Roman Foster and running back James Hill of Colorado Springs to provide depth at their respective positions. Hill was a *Super Prep* All-American. Halfback Dennis Collier was tabbed the No. 20 speed running back by Emfinger, and running back Chuck Snowden (6-1, 185, 4.6) made *Super Prep* all-region.

There is little doubt that Coach Bill McCartney strengthened his club.

Overall, Colorado signed 21 players (one from the junior college ranks). The Buffs stayed within their own region by signing eight Colorado prepsters and seven California schoolboys. Colorado issued scholarships to nine players on offense and 12 on defense. Of their 21 signees, nine were listed by Max Emfinger as among the top 400 players in America.

*USA Today* gave the Buffaloes a "B" for their efforts, and some recruiting experts contend CU may rival OU for second-place in the league's recruiting race this season.

### Iowa State

Coach Jim Walden realized his squad needed help on defense, and he also realized he would have to compete against Iowa, Nebraska, and the rest of the Big Ten for the players he needed. His solution: dip into the junior college ranks. Six new Cyclone players came from the junior college circuit (three each on offense and defense). The overall picture is looking better for Iowa State.

"Coach Walden thought this was the best and fastest class he has had in his three years at Ames," said Bob Asmussen of the *Ames Tribune*. "Sherman Williams (running back) came out of Omaha (Neb.) Central, and they have timed him at a 4.3 forty. That's the fastest time in school history, and this

is the same high school that produced Gale Sayers and Keith Jones."

Another standout signee is Blaise Bryant, who led the junior colleges in rushing last year.

Despite some success, the Cyclones once again lost players they desperately wanted. Iowa State only signed one quarterback and lost another one to the Pacific 10 Conference. This may prove to hurt Iowa State in future years.

On defense, the Cyclones are hoping to rebuild their linebacking ranks with the help of Sacramento Junior College product Scott Alford and Melvin Coleman out of Ellsworth (Iowa) Junior College. This is where the Cyclones needed the most help, according to Asmussen.

"Iowa State really competed with the big schools this year and kept four kids in-state instead of letting them get away,"

## The Big Eight landed three superstar backs: NU's Derek Brown, OU's Dewell Brewer and CU's James Hill.

said Asmussen. "That's a big step."

### Kansas

The Jayhawks have become Big Eight doormats, but the 1989 recruiting class may do something about that in the future.

"People up here are really high on recruiting this year," said Chuck Woodling of the *Lawrence Journal World*. "They filled in the areas where they needed help, and that's always a big plus."

Last year, the Jayhawk defensive statistics were the worst in NCAA Division I-A. Kansas responded by signing eight defensive linemen, including highly touted Gilbert Brown (6-3, 285) of Detroit, where he's considered one of that city's best prospects in years. Two of the new Jayhawk defenders will come from Coffeyville Community College: JC All-America lineman Mike Hall (6-1, 260) and Gary Oatis (6-2, 251), who was all-conference. Both have already enrolled.

Offensively, Kansas landed wide receiver Terry Bell from Tampa and quarterback Chip Hilleary from Westerville, Ohio. Both of these players are expected to contribute soon. Lineman Keith Loneker (6-3, 320) of Roselle Park, N.J., was rated the No. 15 offensive guard in the country by Emfinger.

The main concern at Kansas is losing its prized in-state players. KU signed three Kansas all-staters, chief of whom was Dwayne Chandler (6-3, 200), who was rated highly by *Super Prep* and Max Emfinger. The Houston scout ranked Chandler as the No. 8 power runner in the country. Still, it may not be enough to save the Jayhawks from another dismal season in 1989.

### Kansas State

The Wildcat woes continue.

New Kansas State Coach Bill Snyder signed 20 players for the upcoming season, but the general outlook around Manhattan is not exactly optimistic.

A sports reporter spoke anonymously: "People here aren't overly thrilled with the class, but Coach Snyder didn't even come until January, so you have to take that into consideration. He stressed getting our state players to stay here, but they only signed four players from Kansas. Maurice Benson, a talented running back and defensive back right here in Manhattan, slipped out of their hands and went to Missouri. It was not a good recruiting year."

Kansas State went to the junior colleges to get five defensive linemen who will hopefully piece the defense back together (this is the squad that gave up 768 rushing yards to Oklahoma).

On offense, the Wildcats only signed one quarterback and three running backs. Don Hilliard (6-0, 220) rushed for 2,417 yards for Riley County High School, so there is no question that

some talent is heading to Manhattan. Lineman Tony Williams (6-5, 275) of St. Louis was rated the No. 48 player in the Midlands by *Super Prep*, and he was recruited by some powerhouses before inking with K-State. Receiver Pat Jackson (5-9, 175) is a juco All-American. Depth, however, could be a

way back into contention under Coach Bob Stull, who replaced Woody Widenhoffer last fall.

"With the change in offense from the Wishbone to the Pro Set, our main concerns were quarterbacks and wide receivers," said Mizzou sports information director Bob Brendel. "We

group is quarterback Phil Johnson (6-5, 210, 4.6), who is considered outstanding. Emfinger rates him the No. 2 "athlete" in the country. Some say Johnson had the best arm in Missouri, and this stringbean made Super Prep's All-Midlands team.

Along with those players, the Tigers signed the aforementioned Maurice Benson, who was named Player of the Year in Kansas by *USA Today*, plus three of the top five linemen in Missouri. Mike Bedosky (6-5, 275) of Jefferson City was a *Super Prep* All-American; Tim Alvarado (6-7, 255) of Blue Springs was rated the No. 3 offensive tackle in America by Emfinger; and Rick Lyle of Kansas City was No. 20 on Emfinger's national list of offensive tackles. All of this spells improvement for the Tiger offense.

Many of the Tiger running backs will be switched to defensive back in order to bolster that position. Missouri's defense was not an immediate concern,

## Missouri was a solid No. 4 in the league's recruiting war, and seemingly has improved its chances of becoming a Big Eight contender.

problem for the Wildcats.

There are also worries in Manhattan that some signees will be stopped by Proposition 48.

### Missouri

The Tigers appear to have collected one of the finest classes in the Big Eight. The Tigers will be looking to claw their

only have one scholarship receiver returning, so we signed seven more. One of them (Linzy Collins) was the top junior college receiver last year. We also signed the top two quarterbacks in Missouri and another quarterback who has played for Arizona State. We're very pleased."

The most intriguing prospect of that



## NEW TRUNK-NIC® TABLE ATTRACTS A PRETTY GOOD CROWD!

The **TRUNK-NIC® TABLE** eliminates the hassle of clumsy card tables at any football game or picnic function. No more transferring food and drinks back and forth between trunk and table. Sets up in seconds by only one person. Rolls out so you never have to lift it. Adjustable legs keep table level even on inclines. Operates on any car trunk. Impact resistant and washable. Order yours today and start enjoying trouble-free tailgating. An absolute must for family outings. **ONLY \$59.00** plus (\$9.00) shipping & (\$1.50) handling for each table. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

To order call 803/253-8100 or send check or money order to:

**TRUNK-NIC®, INC.**  
P.O. Box 8052 • Columbia, SC 29202.

#### SHIP TO: (Please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(No P.O. Boxes)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to:

Phone (Day) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Night) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**TRUNK-NIC®, INC.**  
P.O. Box 8052  
Columbia, S.C. 29202

☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required for charge purchases)

## Reading worth writing for.

If you're looking for some good reading, you've just found it. The free Consumer Information Catalog.

The Catalog lists about 200 federal publications, many of them free. They can help you eat right, manage your money, stay healthy, plan your child's education, learn about federal benefits and more.

So sharpen your pencil. Write for the free Consumer Information Catalog. And get reading worth writing for.



**Consumer Information Center**  
Department RW  
Pueblo, Colorado 81009

U.S. General Services Administration.



so the Tigers signed only four pure defensive players out of a total of 20.

*USA Today* did not grade the Tigers because Missouri wasn't in that newspaper's Top 25 poll last January, but there's little doubt Coach Stull's first recruiting class is a solid No. 4 in the league.

### Oklahoma

The Sooners have been in the news about as much as Salman Rushdie's book has been. Charges of rape, selling drugs, and dorm shootings have hurt the Sooners, but the tradition of top-notch recruiting appears to continue.

Barry Switzer hauled in a gold mine of star running backs including all-world Dewell Brewer of Lawton, Okla., and all-purpose back Aaron Goins of Owasso, Okla. Other offensive threats landed by Oklahoma include All-America tight end Joey Mickey from Oklahoma City's Millwood High School and quarterback William Shankle from Sugar Land, Texas. Mickey's impact could be felt soon because the Sooners are still smarting from pass-catching inadequacies and this 6-7 target was Emfinger's choice as the No. 3 tight end in America.

The Sooners also signed 6-7, 320-pound All-America tackle James Cargill from Plainview, Texas.

Russell Allen, from the same high school as Mickey, was a *Super Prep* All-American and will help in the defensive line. Michael Coats (6-2, 220, 4.6) was arguably the best linebacker in Oklahoma, and defensive back Corey Johnson (5-11, 185, 4.4) made most of the all-region teams.

This class is a very good crop for Switzer under the trying circumstances. Eight of Switzer's signees were listed in Emfinger's top 400 and three of them were listed in the *USA Today* Top 100.

*USA Today* gave the Sooners a "B" for their class.

### Oklahoma State

The Cowboys were the only Big Eight team to win a bowl last year. Running back Barry Sanders won the Heisman Trophy. Mike Gundy was returning for another year at the helm as quarterback. Things looked great until probation stunned the Pokes.

Three months later, the recruiting season stunned the Cowboys. Verbal commitments wound up signing with other schools. Oklahoma State needed to rebuild its entire offensive line and get running backs for the future. OSU filled the gaps, but not with the players

### OU and Colorado had more bona fide All-Americans, but Nebraska signed great depth.

they had originally thought would be their future stars. None of the O-State recruits made Emfinger's top 400 list.

Defensively, the Cowboys' top signees include linebacker Tracy Price (named all-area by *Super Prep* and *Prep Football Report*) from McAlester and defensive end Anthony Gardner from Grandview,

Mo. Gardner also made *Super Prep's* all-region team. With Wyoming and Ohio State looming on the 1989 schedule, the Cowboys' porous defense did not receive much help.

The departure of split end Hart Lee Dykes left OSU with a big hole to fill. His acrobatics and athleticism had to be replaced. The Cowboys signed only one receiver, Charles Johnson of Galveston, Texas. Fullback Roger Franks will certainly help the Cowboy backfield, but watch out for fleet running back-defensive back Charles Verner, who made *Super Prep* all-region. This darkhorse recruit from Stillwater could help OSU more than expected.

O-State gave 19 grants, having only 20 available because of probation.

*USA Today* rated the Cowboy recruits as a "C" group. We will have to agree with the newspaper. There are just too many questions to answer at this point. ■



**Commonwealth  
Electric Company**  
of the midwest

**COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL - RESIDENTIAL  
DESIGN & BUILD ENGINEERING - MAINTENANCE**

**FOR PROMPT QUALITY ELECTRICAL  
SERVICE 24 HOURS A DAY**

**EMERGENCY**

**474-1341**

**421-2533**

**1901 Y Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska**

**Thomas M. Price  
President**

**Glen A. Moss  
Secretary-Treasurer**

**David F. Firestone  
Vice President**

# Changing of the Guard

VETERAN ASSISTANT JOHN MELTON RETIRES, AND  
KEVIN STEELE STEPS IN TO COACH NU'S INSIDE LINEBACKERS.



Kevin Steele had three years of Big Eight experience at OSU.

**W**hen 27-year Nebraska coaching veteran John Melton retired, the Cornhuskers went looking for a Volunteer.

Although it will be hard to replace the wit, fun and personality of Melton, Nebraska appears to have come up with a winner in former Tennessee star and assistant coach Kevin Steele.

Melton announced in early March that he was resigning his coaching position to assume the duties of a full-time fund raiser for Nebraska's athletic department.

Melton, 61, underwent quintuple bypass surgery in February and is home recovering nicely, he said. But the surgery would keep him from helping coach spring football this year and, since he was going to resign at the end of next season, he chose to step up the change in jobs.

"There was no way I could coach in spring practice, and the best thing for Coach (Tom) Osborne and our team is for me to step down now," Melton said. "I've had a wonderful career working for Bob Devaney and Tom Osborne, and now I'm going through a change in life, that's all."

Melton was the last active Cornhusker coach who came to Nebraska from Wyoming with Devaney in 1962. Melton coached the freshman football team, wrestling and track at Wyoming and coached freshman football at Nebraska before taking over the linebacker coaching job in 1967. He was a standout full-back at Wyoming, leading the undefeated Cowboys to the 1950 Gator Bowl. Melton coached at Thermopolis (Wyo.) High School and was hired by Devaney in 1957 at Wyoming.

He joined the NU staff along with George Kelly, Mike Corgan, Clete Fisch-



er, Jim Ross and Carl Selmer. Osborne and Monte Kiffin were added to the Devaney staff before Osborne was named Devaney's successor in 1972.

Known as a top public speaker, Melton also hosted the Cornhusker Football Highlights show telecast on the Nebraska Public Television Network.

"John is a great coach and a tremendous ambassador for the program," Osborne said. "John will be stronger than ever by next fall, and since he was going to leave in January — and fall is the best time for fund-raising for us — he and I felt this would be the best move for him at this time.

"We're looking at our first budget in the red next fall, and John's role, along

with that of Clete Fischer (a former NU assistant and now fund raiser) will be as important as their contribution as coaches," Osborne said.

Melton said there are aspects of coaching he will not miss.

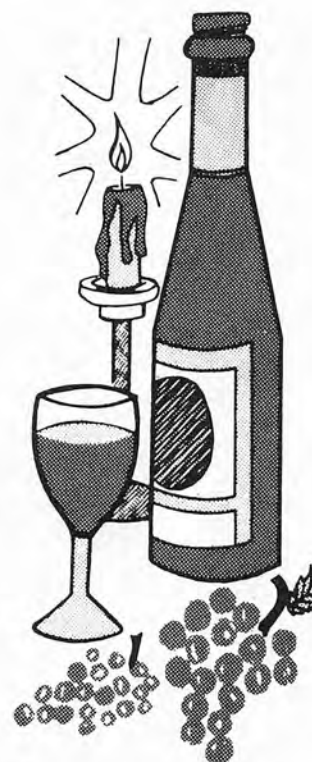
"The recruiting is the hardest part of coaching, and it's gotten harder every year with all the rules, regulations, hours and travel. And it's all on a deadline basis that can become very tiring," he said. "You have to be part coach, part bookkeeper and salesman. And you can see how easy it is to get into trouble — just look around the Big Eight."

But Melton's recruiting successes have played a large part in Nebraska's successes on the field.



John Melton was the last active coach who came to Nebraska with Bob Devaney in 1962.

"ONE OF THE  
LARGEST  
WINE SELECTIONS  
IN THE U.S.A."



## N STREET LIQUOR

DISCOUNT PRICES • CASE DISCOUNTS  
FINE LIQUORS & WINES & BEER  
LINCOLN'S HEADQUARTERS FOR KEGS  
YOUR COMPLETE PARTY  
HEADQUARTERS — WEDDINGS  
RECEPTIONS — ETC. — ICE  
GLASSES — SNACKS  
BARTENDER SERVICE AVAILABLE

"LINCOLN'S LIQUOR  
SUPERMARKET"

5400 SQ. FT. OF SHOPPING SPACE

**477-6077**

19th & "N" St.  
Plenty Of Off Street Parking  
Shopping Carts - 7 A.M. To 1 A.M. Daily

He recruited former NU quarterback Dave Humm, former NU running back and now NFC Offensive Player of the Year Roger Craig, his brother Curtis Craig, Craig Johnson, Jamie Williams, Henry Waecheter, Steve McWhirter and dozens of other famous Nebraska players.

This year, Melton was responsible for

recruiting and signing Trev Alberts of Iowa and Lance Larson of Minnesota. Larson was considered the best lineman in Minnesota and one of the top recruits in the country.

"Recruiting has become very sophisticated with the computers and the tight restrictions. When I started recruiting, you could visit a kid 20 times and

really get to know him," Melton said.

As for coaching the players, Melton said he will miss the day-to-day contact with the players he got to know so well. He was responsible for coaching such NU linebacker standouts as LeRoy Etienne, Mike Knox, Tom Ruud, Clete Pillen, Marc Munford, Bob Terrio, Bob Nelson and Jerry Murtaugh.

"I've always kept the philosophy with coaching linebackers that you have to beat my guys, and there were no tricks involved."

Melton said he's happy he'll still be in contact with the Nebraska football fans. "These are the greatest fans in the world. And now, I'm going to be trying to get my hands in their wallets to make up for the income losses of the probations given to Oklahoma and Oklahoma State."

Melton turned down job offers with the Washington Redskins, Notre Dame and Cincinnati over the years, but he said he discovered long ago there is no place like Nebraska.

Melton's replacement said he has always had a dream of coaching at a school of the caliber of Nebraska.

Steele, 30, was most recently the inside linebacker coach at Tennessee, where he was an inside linebacker himself from 1976 to 1979.

Steele also coached the defensive secondary, tight ends and outside linebackers at Tennessee.

After graduation from Tennessee, he joined that staff as a grad assistant. He moved on to coach linebackers and act as recruiting coordinator at New Mexico State for a year and then joined the Oklahoma State coaching staff under head coach Pat Jones. He served as inside linebacker coach and tight ends coach there for three years.

Steele then returned to Tennessee to join Coach Johnny Majors' staff in 1986.

"I've always wanted to be a coach, and I've almost always been involved in coaching or playing since I was a kid," he said.

Pete Steele, Kevin's father, was a high school coach and assistant coach at Auburn. Steele's uncle, Harold White, was a 26-year assistant coach at Oklahoma State and Alabama. An older brother is an assistant coach at East Carolina and a younger brother is athletic director at

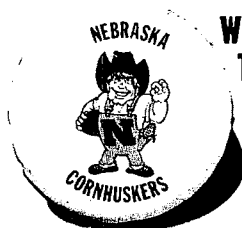


# LINCOLN'S OTHER BIG RED.

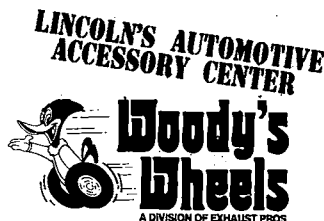
**WHEN YOU THINK OF FOOTBALL YOU THINK OF THE HUSKERS.  
NOW, WHEN YOU THINK OF YOUR CAR, TRUCK, VAN OR RV  
YOU'LL THINK OF WOODY!**

Woody's Wheels is Lincoln's complete Automotive Accessory Center. Cars, trucks, vans, RVs- Woody's Wheels has the accessories everyone's looking for. And, if you're not a do-it-yourselfer, Woody's offers expert installation- *On Everything We Sell!*

**STOP IN TODAY, AND SEE WHAT WOODY'S HAS FOR YOUR  
VEHICLE! AND REMEMBER, THE NEXT TIME YOU THINK OF  
YOUR CAR- THINK OF THE BIG RED!**



**WOODY'S HUSKER  
TIRE COVER  
SPECIAL  
\$ 27 95**



2701 No. 27th  
Lincoln, NE 68521  
466-8777





Newberry College in South Carolina.

"There is a lot of coaching in my background, and although a lot of it is in the South, there is no problem with my joining Nebraska. There is almost no peer in terms of progress and success to Nebraska's football program," he said.

A couple of chance meetings on the recruiting trails and some acquaintances with Coach Tom Osborne led Steele to offer his informal application to Nebraska four years ago, Steele said.

"When they asked if I was interested and if I wanted to visit the campus, I jumped at the chance. My wife, Linda, and I decided that if offered the job this time, I would accept.

"This is a dream come true for any assistant coach and especially for me," he said.

Steele brings with him a level of recruiting success that would appeal to any college coaching staff.

He was responsible for recruiting *Parade* All-American Chuck Webb out of Toledo, Ohio, last year and *Parade* All-American Derrick Evans out of Dallas this year. He also coached All-America linebacker Keith DeLong at Tennessee. He recruited three high school All-

*"I've had a wonderful career working for Bob Devaney and Tom Osborne, and now I'm going through a change in life, that's all."*

— John Melton

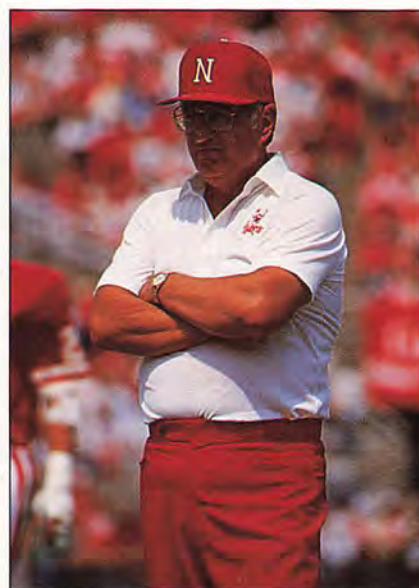
Americans while at Oklahoma State.

"Nebraska has done as good a job as anybody over the years, and I think I can help the effort," he said. "I look forward to recruiting for Nebraska as much as I do coaching."

Steele said that even though the Cornhuskers will have just one scholarship senior inside linebacker this year, he expects to find a wealth of talent available to work with this spring.

"I'm excited about coaching the linebackers, and I think we can get to know each other and produce some results people will like," he said.

Osborne said Steele was one of just two coaches interviewed for the job. "We're pleased with his qualifications, and he should be able to help us fill in the gap left by Melton's resignation very



soon."

Steele said he was sorry to leave Tennessee. "I love Tennessee and the city of Knoxville and all the people there. Emotionally and personally, this was a hard decision.

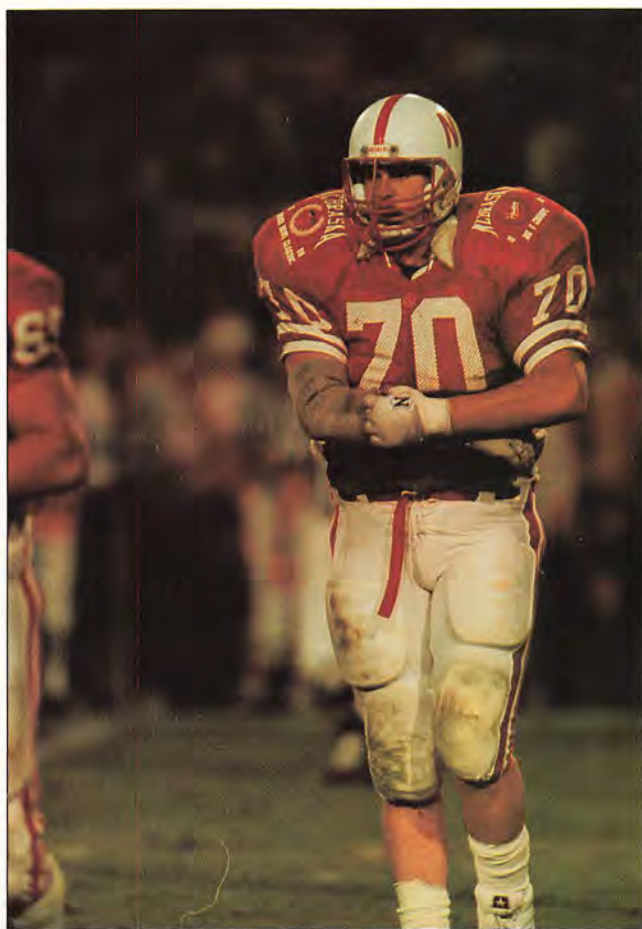
"But I know it is the right one, and I'm looking forward to making my family a part of Nebraska and the city of Lincoln." ■



# No Pain No Gain

*DOUG GLASER ENDURED FRUSTRATION  
AGAINST SUPERSTAR NEIL SMITH  
TO BECOME A STAR HIMSELF.*

By Rod Henkel



**Without the benefit of a redshirt year, Glaser still made second-team All-Big Eight.**

Doug Glaser's first spring practice opponent fit right in with the rest of his football career — it was a little out of the ordinary.

Glaser, a second-team All-Big Eight selection by United Press International last season, returns along with All-America center Jake Young to spearhead Nebraska's offensive line in 1989.

The senior from Balch Springs, Tex., says the 1987 spring scrimmage was instrumental in his development as a fine offensive tackle.

When he was only a freshman, Glaser did not know what to expect during spring drills except that the Nebraska coaches planned to redshirt him in his second season.

But a knee injury to top tackle Keven Lightner promoted Glaser to the No. 2 spot for his initial spring session, and as a result, he faced the top Black Shirt unit in each Saturday scrimmage.

It just so happened Neil Smith stood opposite of Glaser on most plays of those scrimmages.

Smith later became the second pick of the 1988 NFL draft when the Kansas City Chiefs selected the New Orleans native in the first round. The same skills which interested the Kansas City coaches also made Smith a difficult player to face in college.

At 6-foot-5 and 260 pounds, Smith could run 40 yards in 4.54 seconds. He also had a 7-foot arm span, which contributed to Smith making 12 tackles for 63 yards of losses his senior season.

Glaser remembers Smith's arms and quickness.

"I don't think I played against anybody as quick as him, except maybe the guy from Miami," Glaser says.

That quickness and those arms led to some frustrating spring scrimmages for Glaser. Smith also owned three years of college experience compared to zero for his offensive opponent.

"I did all right a couple of scrimmages," Glaser recalls. "A couple of scrimmages, he really got the best of me."

Smith dealt similar confidence-shaking blows to most players he went against, according to NU offensive line coach Milt Tenopir.

Glaser, however, did not step away from the challenge.



"Anybody who went against Neil had problems," Tenopir says. "Glaser never backed down from him, but he might have whiffed him a few times."

Glaser admits to feeling discouraged after a few of those Saturday confrontations with Smith.

But once he thought about who he was trying to block, Glaser realized what the spring drills could do for his career.

"I figured if I could handle him, or half-way handle him, it would start to help my confidence," Glaser says. "I just figured if I could go against Neil, he would probably be the best guy I'd have to go against."

"He didn't do anything but make me better."

Having such a formidable practice op-

## **Rather than needing to gain weight, Glaser actually dieted before coming to Lincoln.**

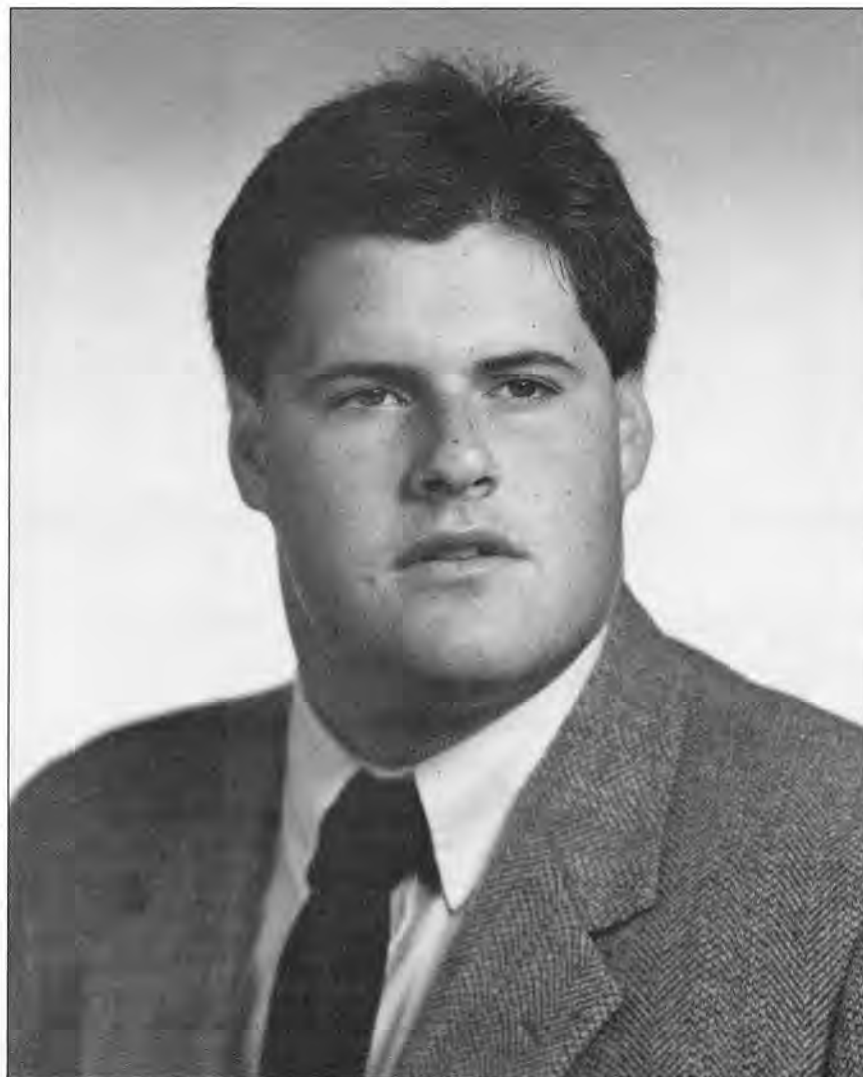
ponent may seem unusual, but then again, Glaser has not had your typical football career.

Consider these facts:

(1) Despite competing on a high school team that won just a single game in each of his junior and senior seasons, Glaser received much recruiting attention; (2) rather than needing to gain weight in order to compete at the major college level, Glaser actually dieted before coming to Lincoln; and, (3) unlike most Nebraska offensive linemen, Glaser saw considerable varsity playing time his sophomore season instead of experiencing a redshirt year.

All these things happened to a player who seriously considered giving up football after his first few experiences with the sport.

As the middle of Susan Glaser's three children, Doug went out for football in seventh and eighth grade primarily be-



**At 6-7 and 290, Glaser is one of the biggest Huskers ever.**

cause all his friends participated.

"I was terrible," says Glaser, who admits he was overweight and out of shape. "I thought there were a lot of better things I could be doing."

When Glaser went to ninth grade, his junior high and three other schools fed into Mesquite High School. Just to make the team, Glaser says he knew he had to work hard.

Glaser competed with the freshman squad and then moved to the varsity his last three years of high school.

Mesquite High qualified for the state

playoffs in Glaser's sophomore season, but won only one game each of the following two years.

"At that point, I was having fun even though we were losing," he says.

And the 6-7, 320-pound Mesquite senior attracted a lot of attention from college recruiters despite his team's poor showing.

Coaches from Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Pittsburgh, Clemson, and "almost everybody in the Southwest Conference," contacted Glaser.

Originally, the offensive tackle leaned

toward attending the University of Texas.

"That's where everybody wanted me to go," Glaser says. "My whole family loved it."

Once he took a recruiting trip to Lincoln, however, Glaser quickly changed his mind.

He cites a winning tradition, a good reputation of developing offensive linemen, and a well-disciplined program as reasons for becoming a Cornhusker.

After visiting Big Red country, "I knew this was the place from then on," Glaser says. "It seemed like everything was first class."

Tenopir says a team's record means nothing when college coaches search for

ed in spring football drills in high school.

In fact, Glaser's high school team played games in a stadium that would seat 22,000 fans, and even the practice field at Mesquite High School had artificial turf.

Still, the Texan had to make a few adjustments once he became a Husker.

"The biggest adjustment was everybody was OK. There wasn't anybody really terrible," Glaser says. "In high school, my size might have helped me dominate people. Up here, players were as quick and strong as I was."

Since he already possessed the size, Glaser stepped into the second-team position when Lightner hurt his knee.

As a junior, Glaser started alongside senior guard John Nelson. The front five paved the way for the Huskers to lead the nation in rushing (382.3 yards per game) for the fifth time in the 1980s. The linemen also helped I-back Ken Clark finish fifth in the nation and second in the Big Eight in rushing at 124 yards per game.

After suffering from dehydration in the Kickoff Classic against Texas A&M, Glaser feels he steadily improved until suffering an ankle injury against Kansas.

He felt the strain of added responsibilities that season.

"Starting, you're not supposed to make the mental mistakes," Glaser says. "Starting takes so much more out of you mentally and physically."

The pressure will increase even more in 1989 for Glaser and Young, who return as NU's only experienced offensive linemen.

Bob Sledge, Nelson, and Andy Keeler graduated after starting in the line a year ago. Sledge and Keeler were two-year starters and all-conference as seniors.

Glaser says competition will be fierce for the two guard and left tackle positions, and no clear-cut favorites exist for those spots entering spring practice.

"It seems to be different from the years I've been here. They've kind of known who are going to be the starters," Glaser says. "This year, it's up for grabs. It's going to be good for us because everybody is going to be working as hard as they can."

"We had a real special offensive line last year. I think that can be the case again. We need a couple of guys to step up and take a couple of the spots."

"We've got some good players coming. They're just young and inexperienced."

Young, a returning All-American who also did not redshirt, and Glaser will be asked to provide leadership for the younger linemen.

Their coach expresses confidence in Glaser and Young.

"Those two, during the course of the year, played as well as anybody in the line last year," Tenopir says. "They performed exceptionally well most of the time."

To be what Glaser calls a stabilizing factor within the line, the two returners

**If young teammates do make mistakes, a veteran needs to "tell them not to worry about it," says Glaser. "Otherwise, they'll mess up the next three plays."**

recruits.

Glaser's size made him a worthy catch for a college program. He earned all-district and All-Dallas/Fort Worth honors for Coach Rusty Tallot.

"When a kid's as big as he is and you know about him, you're going to check him out," Tenopir says. "It's pretty hard to grow that size."

Glaser actually reduced his 320-pound frame before going to Nebraska for his freshman season.

The NU coaches never told him to lose weight, but Glaser figured he couldn't play major college ball at that size.

He dropped 30 pounds by dieting. Glaser played at 292 pounds as a junior.

"I think I was a little quicker, more agile," Glaser says. "I feel more comfortable at that weight."

Glaser started at offensive right tackle for the 1986 Nebraska JV team that compiled a 4-1 record.

He had no idea what spring practices would bring, even though he participat-

ed in spring football drills in high school. He played well enough that first spring and again the following fall to occupy the swing tackle spot. Glaser played in every game as a true sophomore in 1987.

Not only Glaser's size, but his knowledge of the game prompted NU coaches to bypass a redshirt season for their young tackle.

"He came from a good background as far as fundamental blocking is concerned," Tenopir says. "He was ahead of the other kids."

Glaser admits he grasped the concept of Nebraska's blocking schemes faster than he anticipated.

"It came pretty naturally. I was kind of surprised," he says. "If I can just get out there and run it... it's hard for me on the blackboard in a meeting."

Glaser entered spring practice his sophomore season knowing he would probably start as a junior. Although Smith was no longer on the other side of the line of scrimmage, Glaser says he worked hard to improve.



must not only share their knowledge, but provide verbal support.

Glaser plans to recognize a fellow lineman whenever he does well.

If a young teammate does make a mistake, a veteran needs to "tell them not to worry about it," Glaser says.

Otherwise, "when the young guys mess up, and they're getting screamed and yelled at, they'll mess up the next three plays."

The 1988 Nebraska football media guide describes Glaser as one of the biggest players ever to wear the Nebraska uniform with the potential to be one of the best.

Tenopir confirms those sentiments, saying Glaser "ranks right up there" with Nebraska's top offensive tackles ever. The Husker coach notes that Glaser plays with a lot of pride and with great football intensity.

Glaser owns aspirations to translate those talents into playing time in the National Football League.

Because he did not redshirt, Glaser will remain about 20 hours short of a construction management degree once his eligibility is completed. If he plays in the NFL, that degree may have to wait awhile longer.

"I'd like to keep playing if I get the chance," says Glaser, who knows where he needs improvement.

"I think I need to work on my pass blocking. There are certain things on run blocking you have to have. On the pass, if you work hard enough at it, you can get it down."

But Glaser's favorite time is when the quarterback calls a running play, specifically a counter sweep in Nebraska's offense.

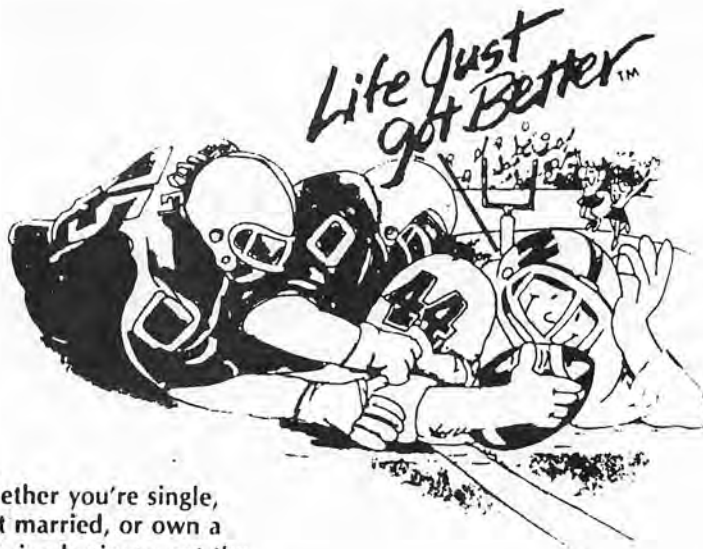
Counter sweeps represent the only plays in which Cornhusker offensive tackles pull and set their sights on opposing cornerbacks.

"That's the only chance we get at the small guys," Glaser says.

Now, disregard all the unusual circumstances surrounding Glaser's football career.

Imagine a 290-pound tackle rounding the corner, heading upfield, and searching to level a 175-pound defensive back.

That's football. Nothing out of the ordinary there. ■



Whether you're single, just married, or own a growing business, get the most out of life...

innovative Life Insurance from Guarantee Mutual Life. Where Life just got better!

Call your Guarantee Mutual Life agent today and make your life, a whole lot better!



Guarantee Centre, 8801 Indian Hills Drive, Omaha, NE 68114 (402) 390-7300

*Broderick Thomas*



**PRINT \$29.95**

"The Sandman" is a Limited Edition, 19 x 25 color print originally hand signed and numbered by Broderick Thomas and includes the Nebraska Sports Graphics Seal of Authenticity. Only 500 have been printed and is an officially licensed collegiate product. A portion of all profits are donated to selected drug abuse centers in Nebraska. Order this rare print NOW for \$29.95.

Send check or money order for \_\_\_\_\_ print(s) at \$29.95 each plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Nebraska residents add \$1.20 sales tax per print. Allow 2 weeks for delivery.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO:  
Nebraska Sports  
Graphics  
P.O. Box 1052  
Hastings, NE 68901  
(402) 751-2142

# Unsettling Scores

MIAMI'S AGGRESSIVE PASS OFFENSE RAISES ETHICAL QUESTIONS OF WHEN TO SCORE AND WHEN TO BACK OFF.

After Notre Dame convincingly defeated West Virginia in the Sunkist-Fiesta Bowl's battle of unbeatens on Jan. 2, Miami had little or no chance of winning college football's mythical national championship.

Nevertheless, the Hurricanes looked impressive in defeating Nebraska, 23-3, in the Orange Bowl that night. They dominated Nebraska, which even Tom Osborne had to admit afterward.

But John Melton, the Cornhuskers' recently retired linebackers coach, questioned Miami's motives late in the fourth quarter. Even though Miami had control with a 20-point lead following Carlos Huerta's 37-yard field goal with 7:32 remaining, the Hurricanes continued to pass.

Six of their final 12 plays from scrimmage were passes.

Miami Coach Jimmy Johnson, who's since moved on to the National Football League's Dallas Cowboys, "is trying to stick it to us, is what the guy is trying to do," Melton said while the Nebraska Educational Television Network showed a replay of the game. "He thinks maybe if he beats us bad enough, everybody will vote for him No. 1."

That was only an opinion, of course. What Melton said about Johnson and his

motives couldn't be proven.

But it was possible. Sometimes, the national rankings and the obsession with being No. 1 can influence a coach's play-calling. Sometimes, just winning isn't enough and a coach tries to run up a score to impress voters.

That's particularly important for independents like Miami. Because they don't have a conference championship for which to compete, their focus must be a more elusive national title.

Maybe that's why Johnson's Miami team poured it on Notre Dame, 58-7, in 1986, a score for which the Hurricanes were roundly criticized. Also, there is no denying Miami threw to the end zone (and scored) against then-No. 1 Florida State in its 1988 opener with a 23-0 fourth-quarter lead.

Sometimes, a coach has a different reason for running up the score.

In 1986, the Iowa State football team defeated Missouri, 37-14, in Columbia, with the Cyclones' final three points coming on a 25-yard field goal, after Iowa State Coach Jim Criner called a timeout with five seconds left.

Criner apparently was upset about remarks prior to the game by Missouri Coach Woody Widenhofer, who suggested Criner's job might be in jeopardy.



"Woody has got a million excuses, and we just wanted to make sure there was no doubt about who won the football game," Criner said afterward.

"He runs off at the mouth a little too much. We called a timeout, and we went out there to score the field goal. Woody shouldn't run off at the mouth so much," said Criner, who was fired at the end of the season.

Widenhofer handled the situation with restraint. "You win with some class, and you lose with class," he said. "This program is not built on winning or losing to Iowa State."





Not entirely, anyway. Widenhofer was fired after last season.

Perhaps one of the best examples of winning with class is illustrated by Nebraska's 42-10 victory over UCLA in Memorial Stadium in 1983.

With time running out, the Cornhuskers had the ball on the UCLA 2-yard line. Quarterback Craig Sundberg took the center snap and dropped to the ground. Nebraska I-back Paul Miles facetiously called the play "I-back do nothing."

The minority of Cornhusker fans who never seem to be satisfied with the

margin of victory were vocal in their displeasure. But UCLA coach Terry Donahue was appreciative.

"I think Tom Osborne was trying not to score. He was trying not to put 49 points on us, and I appreciate that. At the time, it was clear we were on the ropes," Donahue told reporters.

"Either way, it was fine. I wouldn't have complained if Nebraska scored. It would have been perfectly legitimate. But he decided not to score. That was nice of him to do that."

Maybe so. But that didn't prevent Donahue making his much-publicized

**Nebraska crushed UCLA in 1983 but backed off at the end.**



Woody Widenhofer (above) and Jim Criner clashed when Criner's Cyclones scored late against Missouri in 1986.



remarks about those Cornhusker teams being "not normal," prior to this season's game in Pasadena.

Osborne got a verbal slap in the face for his apparent compassion.

Despite evidence to the contrary, Osborne occasionally has been accused of running up scores on overmatched opponents. That's probably to be expected, considering the Cornhuskers have ranked no lower than seventh nationally in scoring offense throughout the 1980s.

Even rival Barry Switzer of Oklahoma, accused himself of scoring atrocities, sides with Osborne. Asked last fall by a Sooner fan why Osborne "runs up

**"I think Tom Osborne was trying not to score. He was trying not to put 49 points on us, and I appreciate that."**

**— Terry Donahue**

the score," Switzer replied, "He doesn't. Tom has great players, and they want to compete. What can you do if a third-teamer takes a simple pitch and goes 50 yards? What can we do if our fullback takes a belly series 50 yards? Those things happen because both schools have great programs, nationally prominent, and we overmatch people sometimes. But Tom doesn't call timeouts to score, and he doesn't throw to the end zone. There's a difference."

Nebraska led the nation in scoring offense in 1982 and 1983, when the Cornhuskers averaged an NCAA-record 52 points per game; ranked second in 1980 and third in 1986 and 1987.

When a team is as prolific in scoring as Nebraska has been, someone is bound to complain. But Osborne's philosophy regarding when to (try to) score and when to back off is consistent, and it's well-documented.

Turn back the pages of recent Cornhusker history and see.



**Oct. 1, 1980. Lawrence, Kan.** Following a touchdown with 40 seconds remaining in the first half and leading Kansas, 33-0, Osborne elects to attempt a two-point conversion. The play, a pass, fails when quarterback Jeff Quinn can't find a receiver and runs.

The Jayhawk fans are irate about what they perceive as an attempt to run up the score. Afterward, reporters pursue that angle with their questions.

Osborne also is angry. "I've never been so mad and upset after winning a game 50-something to nothing," he says of Nebraska's 54-0 victory. "We played a first-class game. We have a first-class team. But we were treated like second-class citizens today. When that happens, I believe in saying so."

Osborne has always taken the approach that a team should score as many points as possible during the first half.

"We were just trying to make sure we won the game," he explained that day. "The greatest disrespect you can show an opponent is to assume the game is over before the half. Maybe they didn't think they could still win the game."

"But I'll guarantee you, if we were down 33-0, I'd want my team thinking they could come back and score five touchdowns in the second half and still win. If I'd kicked the extra point and they had come back to beat us 35-34, what do you think I'd have heard from our fans?" he asked, rhetorically.

Nebraska's 42-28 loss to UCLA this season illustrates Osborne's point. The Bruins jumped out to a 28-0 lead in the first quarter, but if they had stopped there, they wouldn't have had enough to win. A team can't afford to let up.

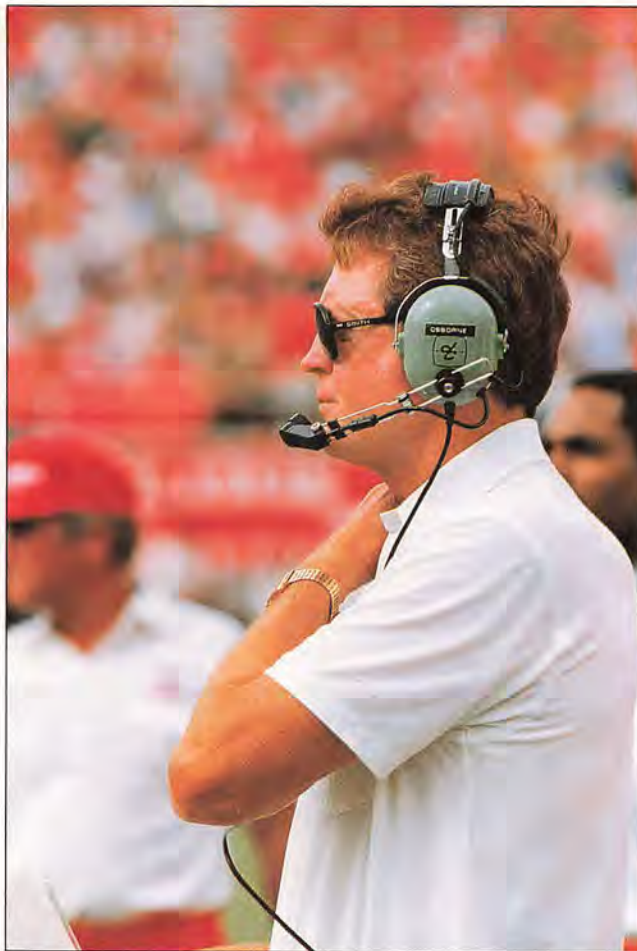
Kansas fans hurled insults at Nebraska when it left the field after the game. "They thought we had tried to run up the score," said Osborne. "But we didn't have our first-unit players in the game after the middle of the third quarter, and we didn't pass after that, unless it was third-and-eight."

After the game, Kansas Coach Don Fambrough and his assistants quickly left the field without shaking hands with the Nebraska coaches.

"Maybe, deep down, they didn't think they could win," Osborne said.

In 1980, travel squads for Big Eight games were limited to 55 players, and

**Osborne has called for larger travel squads partly because great players love to compete, win and score.**



"we played everyone we were allowed to bring. Maybe after games like this, Bob Devaney won't be the only athletic director in the conference voting for larger travel squads," said Osborne.

The travel roster for conference games was subsequently increased to 60.

**Sept. 17, 1983. Minneapolis, Minn.**

A week before the UCLA game mentioned earlier, Nebraska defeats Minnesota by the remarkable score of 84-13. The following week, Osborne is criticized not only by newspapers in Minnesota but also by national sports columnists, who maintain he ran up the score, pointing out as evidence the fact that late in the fourth quarter, he put some of his starters back into the game.

Afterward, Osborne tells reporters: "I hope people up here don't think we were trying to pour it on or be vindictive. But toward the end, our second-stringers were so tuckered out, we had to put some first-team players back in to

relieve them."

That was apparent to those who saw the game. Much of the criticism, however, came from writers whose views were entirely based on the score.

Nebraska's offensive players, in particular, were weary from scoring at will on the not-so-Golden Gophers.

Sixty players comprised the non-conference travel roster, and all 60 played a lot. "Yet no matter who was in there, everytime I looked up, we were scoring another touchdown," Osborne said. "Actually, I think we'll find that the second-team played more than the first-team during the game."

Minnesota's defensive game plan contributed to the Gophers' embarrassment. Coach Joe Salem decided his team would have to gamble to have a chance against high-scoring Nebraska. So the Gophers blitzed a lot.

Blitzes "are fine if you guess right. But if you don't, the linebackers are caught inside and a very basic play be-





**Despite its fabulous defense and 20-point lead, Miami threw late in the Orange Bowl.**

comes a big gainer," Osborne said.

The Cornhuskers rolled up 780 yards of offense, including 585 on the ground, and seven of their 12 touchdowns were on plays of 27 yards or more.

Osborne was embarrassed by the final score and "half ashamed" to meet with Salem after the game. "He was awfully nice to come over and say hello after something like that. I felt sorry for him," said Osborne.

Salem, who was fired after the season, never complained about the final score or accused Osborne of running it up.

The next Monday, at the weekly Extra Point Club luncheon, Osborne reiterated his philosophy as it related to games like the one against Minnesota.

There's a "delicate balance between what's best for your team and the team on the other side of the field," he said. "For the record, generally what we'll do is play the first-units for about a quart-

er and a half in the first half and we'll always come back with the first-units in the second half.

"We don't want to let the other team get momentum. After about seven or eight minutes (of the third quarter) if we've done well, we'll start putting in the second- and third-units."

Given the limit on travel rosters, which is now 60 for conference as well as non-conference games, "on the road we'll generally have a harder time holding the score down than we would at home because we don't really have a bad player to put on the field."

And, of course, a coach always has to make certain his best players see enough action to remain sharp.

Osborne's 1983 team was the most susceptible to the run-it-up criticism because it was so explosive on offense. The Cornhuskers defeated Penn State in the first Kickoff Classic 44-6; they beat Wyoming, 56-20; Syracuse, 63-7;

Colorado, 69-19; Kansas State, 51-25; Iowa State, 79-29; and Kansas, 67-13.

It was a unique season.

Nebraska's Heisman Trophy winner Mike Rozier spotted Kansas State two points by stepping back into the end zone and downing the ball for a safety on the opening kickoff. The Cornhuskers certainly couldn't be accused of trying to run up the score that day.

Nebraska led Colorado by only two points at halftime, 14-12, then scored 48 points in the first 12:13 of the third quarter. And the Cornhuskers scored 27 of their 72 points against Iowa State in the fourth quarter.

You have to remember the 1983 team didn't have an outstanding defense, as some of the scores illustrate, which meant Osborne could never be certain how many points were enough to win. Nebraska scored 30 in the Orange Bowl and lost to Miami by one.

**Nov. 2, 1985. Manhattan, Kan.** On the final play of the game against Kansas State, Cornhusker I-back Jon Kelley goes into the end zone from 1 yard away to cap a 41-3 victory.

Afterward, Kansas State's Jeffrey Hurd calls the play "not very classy. In my opinion, he (Osborne) wanted to run the score up. It was like throwing salt and pepper into an open wound," Hurd says.

You can understand a player saying something like that in disappointment.

But a coach should know better.

Lee Moon, Kansas State's interim coach following the midseason resignation of Jim Dickey, for example.

After the 41-3 loss to Nebraska, Moon warned: "I'll remember it."

Yes? And do what?

Osborne wasn't trying to run up the score on Kansas State that day. To suggest otherwise was foolish. More often, Husker victims actually make postgame comments about Nebraska's respect, sportsmanship, clean play and restraint.

You've got to have a reason to humiliate an opponent, a motive, like trying to impress the pollsters or wanting to pay back someone for a perceived wrongdoing.

Sometimes, a lopsided score is simply an indication of the relative strengths of the teams involved. Sometimes, there's nothing a coach can do. ■



# Not Too Much.



Staying at a hotel doesn't need to cost a lot of money. In fact, a relaxing Dillon Inn is very affordable.

# Not Too Little.



Every Dillon Inn gives you a large, executive-sized room or suite at a cost you'll be especially comfortable living with.

Keeping the business traveler in mind, each room has a spacious work area with desk, ample living space, free satellite TV, unlimited local phone calls and complimentary continental breakfast.



© Dillon Inns 1989

Come see a Dillon Inn. Compare our rates. You'll find us easily accessible, with 16 locations in the places you need to be. So check us out. Then check in.

For reservations or a free directory, just call Toll Free,

**1-800-253-7503**

(In Minnesota, 1-800-345-5661)



# Just Right.

Chicago/Arlington Heights • Chicago/Downers Grove • Denver/Airport • Detroit/Farmington Hills • Detroit/Warren • Grand Rapids • Indianapolis/Airport  
Indianapolis/North • Lansing • Lincoln • Milwaukee • Minneapolis/Airport • Minneapolis/Bloomington • Oklahoma City • Omaha • Tulsa

**Nebraska athletic director and** former head football coach Bob Devaney said he and other athletic department staff studied many ways to raise revenue, and a ticket price raise was the only way.

NU football tickets will cost \$18.50, except for the Oklahoma game which will cost \$25 for the game in Lincoln next year.

"With the estimated loss of \$500,000 because Oklahoma and Oklahoma State are banned from TV and bowl games, we had to come up with something to make up the difference," Devaney said. The price increase will make up about \$350,000.

"We don't plan on this being a permanent price increase, but many schools around the conference have done so," he said. Colorado has charged an extra \$5 to \$7 for tickets to the Nebraska game when the Cornhuskers played in Boulder. Oklahoma is planning on charging \$30 for its home game with Oklahoma State this year.

On another subject, Devaney said he hoped that the problems at Oklahoma subside soon. "What's happened there with the arrests and the probation is not good for Oklahoma, obviously, and not good for the conference.

"It's more than just a financial thing, too. Oklahoma is an important member of the Big Eight, and they've run into a string of problems that probably couldn't be controlled. By that I mean, the probation with the NCAA is one thing and the arrests of the players for crimes is another. There's not much a coach can do when a kid he recruits turns out bad. You don't try to recruit anybody but the best athletes, students and citizens."

**Tom Osborne said that recent** problems at Oklahoma represent "an unusual run of bad luck" for Oklahoma coach Barry Switzer.

"You hope you can set down a system of discipline and hope you recruit good character and you hope you're lucky. But you can't ever guarantee that they're all going to behave," he said. "I certainly empathize with the problems he's (Switzer) had with players because, to some degree, we're all capable of having those things happen to us. I don't know how much he should be held



**Danny Noonan**

responsible for all those. If there's a pattern there, I guess that's where the buck stops, with the head coach."

Osborne said he has always gotten along with Switzer. "We're very different types of people, but I think I've always had pretty good empathy for his situation and vice versa. I've always liked Barry. He and I have gotten along well even though we've been intense rivals on the field."

**Broderick Thomas, former NU All-America** linebacker accepted the award when he was named the Most Valuable Black Shirt by a vote of the fans. The award, a \$25,000 scholarship in Thomas' name was presented by the Miller Brewing Company at halftime of the Nebraska-Colorado basketball game.

Thomas said, "I'll always be a Cornhusker wherever I go from here." Thomas is listed as one of the top five possible picks in the NFL draft this spring. Rumors have him pegged to be drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs where he would join last year's first-round draft pick Neil Smith, who finished his career with the Cornhuskers in 1987.

**Former NU running back Tyreese** Knox is being scouted by four NFL teams and may sign a free agent contract if he is not drafted, he said.

**Mark Behning, a former All-Big Eight** lineman, has signed with the San Diego Chargers. Behning played for the Pittsburgh Steelers in the past.

**Danny Noonan, an All-America** middle guard with Nebraska and first-round draft pick of the Dallas Cowboys in 1987, will be a part-time body guard

for talk show host Morton Downey, Jr. in the off-season. Noonan said he was looking forward to playing for new Cowboys coach Jimmy Johnson, the former Miami Hurricanes head coach.

**Nebraska on-campus recruiting** coordinator Dave Gillespie said he was thrilled with the recruiting success of this year's recruiting wars. "We have a very strong class," he said. Gillespie also said the walkon class should be the best in recent years.

Osborne said there was a more concerted effort to recruit quality walkons this year to maintain a cornerstone of the NU football program.

**Nebraska football academic advisor** Roger Grooters said the Cornhuskers are in better shape overall academically than last year when eight players missed part of spring practice. "Right now, everybody looks in pretty good shape," he said.

**NU reserve quarterback Mickey** Joseph said he is looking forward to challenging for the starting position this spring. "Gerry Gdowski has the front position now, but I am going to give it my all and really go after the job."

**Speaking of spring practice,** Oklahoma coaches plan to change offenses, de-emphasizing the Wishbone and shifting to something Nebraskans know well: the I-option. It's no fluke. OU invited Syracuse assistant George DeLeone to Norman in February, and Sooners coaches went to Notre Dame in March to study the Irish offense, which was effectively balanced in '88 despite having an average passer. ■

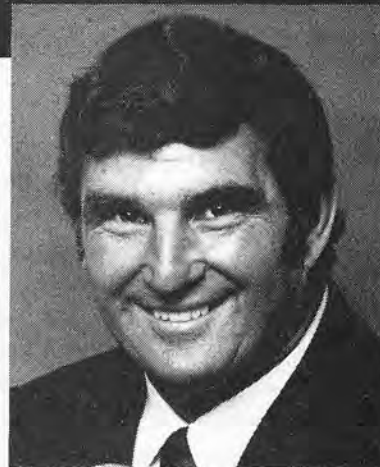


# READ THE FOOTBALL PAPER THE EXPERTS READ - FOOTBALL NEWS



"I look forward each week to the **FOOTBALL NEWS** because it gives the best insight as to what is happening to football throughout the country. If I didn't subscribe to **FOOTBALL NEWS**, I would miss out on a lot of things that make football so interesting."

**JOE PATERNO**  
Head Coach, Penn State



"I sincerely enjoy reading **FOOTBALL NEWS** each week because it provides me with the information I seek, and also helps with my presentation for Sunday television and Monday Night radio for CBS"

**HANK STRAM,**  
CBS-TV-Radio

Simply mail in the no-risk sample order form or call **1-800-521-8808** for a special offer to readers of this magazine. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday, Eastern Time.

## CLIP THIS COUPON NOW!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Send me a **FREE** Sample Copy of **FOOTBALL NEWS**
- ☐ Send me 20 issues for \$25.00\* and bill me later (a \$50.00 value on the newsstand).

\* I save \$3.00 off regular subscription price.

☐ Check Enclosed or Charge to:

MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐  
Am. Exp. ☐ 06A

# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**FOOTBALL NEWS • 17820 E. Warren • Detroit, MI 48224**

# LEANER, MEANER, *FASTER,* **STRONGER**

Nebraska's heralded strength program plans to change excess baggage into raw power.

By Paul Hammel.

**I**t's been 19 years since a former pole vaulter named Boyd Epley was hired by Bob Devaney to put muscles on Nebraska football players.

Epley was the first full-time strength coach in college football and Nebraska became the first team to pump iron during a season, a once-comical notion that is now as commonplace as artificial turf.

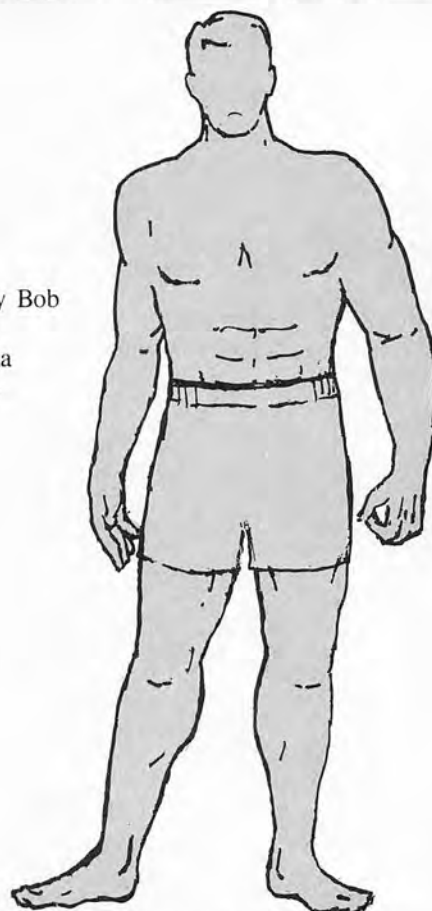
Coincidentally, the Cornhuskers won national titles during Epley's first two years with the Big Red. The era of weight training in college football had begun, and Epley was accepted as one of its top disciples.



1981 - 205 lbs.



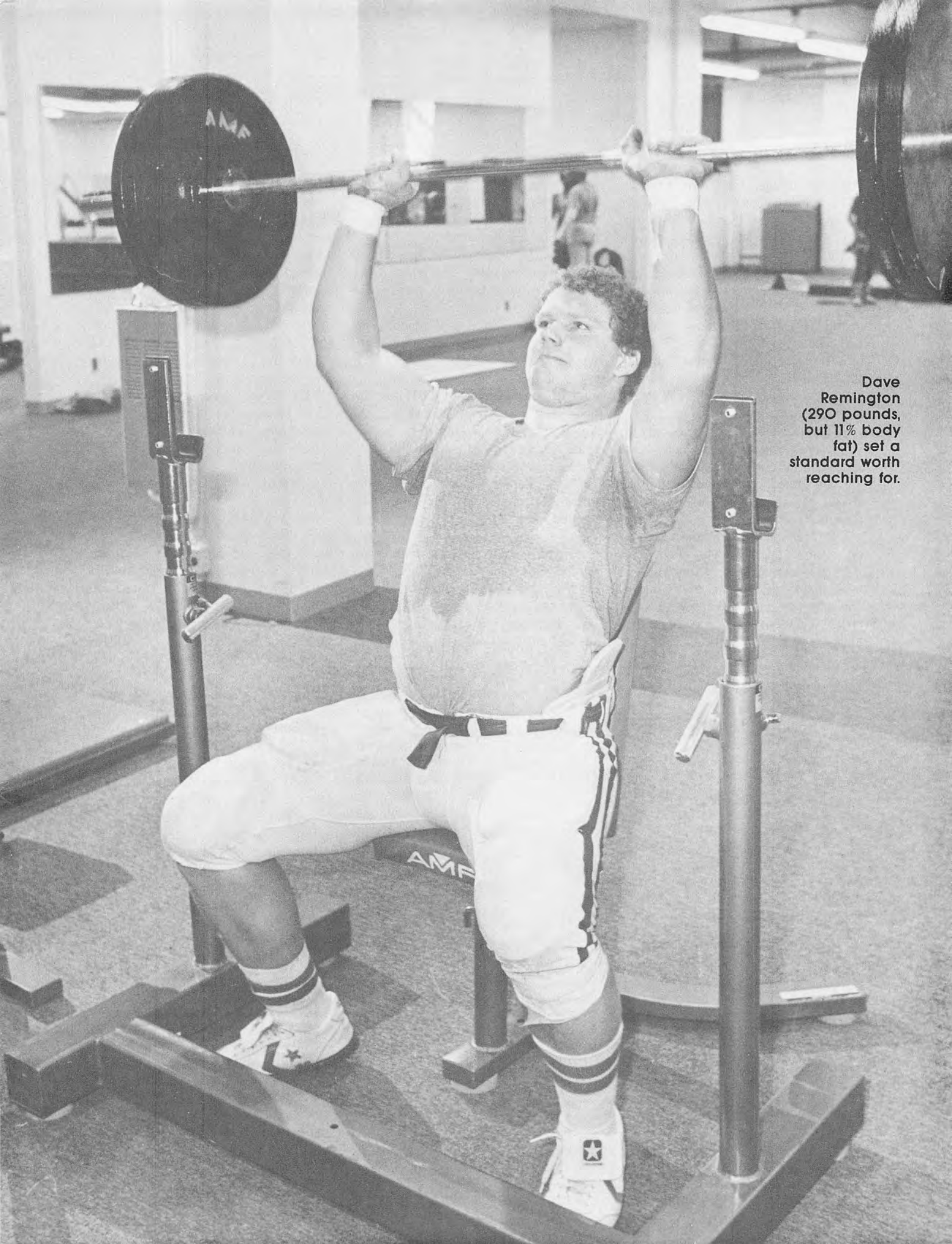
1984 - 214 lbs.



1987 - 234 lbs.

College football players have grown, and average team weights at NU have followed that trend. NU's goal is to convert fat into muscle while maintaining those sizeable gains.





Dave  
Remington  
(290 pounds,  
but 11% body  
fat) set a  
standard worth  
reaching for.

Bigger, stronger, faster were the goals, and every year, conditioning tests were proving that Nebraska's strength-training and recruiting efforts were producing just that: bigger players who could hit harder and get there quicker.

And with each great player produced at Nebraska, a story about his hard work in the weight room usually followed. I.M. Hipp, Rik Bonness, Dave Rimington, Rod Horn and Danny Noonan, among others, pumped up their football prospects, along with their muscles, in the weight room.

"Nebraska beef" became not only the famous corn-fed steaks produced in the state, but the burly blockers and Black Shirts sculpted in the sweat shop of the Huskers' state-of-the-art strength complex.

The keeper of that modern facility, however, says it's time for a change.

Like the American automobile and beef steaks, the Huskers are trimming down. No longer will "bigger, stronger, faster" be the motto, says Epley. Try: "leaner and meaner," or "leaner, faster,

more powerful."

"Go Big Red" might be replaced by "Go Lean Red." The same horsepower in a more compact chassis.

Less fat is where it's at, said Epley, who's concentrating on cutting the amount of body fat some players are carrying.

A year ago, Epley said coaches noticed that some players were, well, overweight.

Not all players, not by a long way. The current team average of 13.03 percent body fat to total weight is less than the 14.7 percent average carried by the national championship team of 1971.

But some players, particularly the bigger boys of the trenches, were carrying up to 30 percent body fat. It might as well be a lead backpack on the football field.

"We have some athletes on our team who have tremendous power, explosiveness, strength, speed and agility, and yet they're carrying 23 to 28 percent body fat," said Epley. "If we can reduce that, we feel we're going to have much im-

proved athletes."

Epley said strength coaches started emphasizing the leaner look last summer and fall, but many folks first heard about it in a newspaper story after Nebraska's disappointing loss to Miami in the Orange Bowl. Some naturally speculated that the change was a reaction to the loss to the lightning-quick, and smaller Hurricanes, but Epley said the interview for the story was done before the game.

"It's not the Miami loss, I guarantee it," he said. Actually, the red flags were waving much earlier.

Nebraska's program once stressed joining the team bench press club. Bench press 400 pounds and you were in.

That sent the wrong message to athletes, however, according to Epley. It was wrong to concentrate on just one lift. Others could suffer. So a couple of years ago, a new evaluation system was begun — the strength index — that calculated strength based on three lifts, as well as the body weight of the athlete. It became apparent some bodies were too big.

"Football is really a game of power, that's why we call our strength program 'Husker Power' — that's what we're after," Epley said. "If you're carrying too much body fat that takes it away."

"The only purpose fat serves is to keep the body warm. You're carrying around excess baggage. It hurts your agility, it hurts your speed."

Move over Big Red Machine, here comes the Lean Red Machine.

In February, Epley started a Mr. Lean contest as an incentive for players to cut their body fat. Similiar to his well-known Lifter of the Year competition, the contest will reward the 10 players who can cut the most body fat, percentage-wise, by the end of April.

Even some coaches are getting into the act. Epley said he cut his body fat from 12.68 to 9.64 percent in three weeks, and only lost two pounds.

"That's a misconception some people have. We're not trying to get these big linemen to lose weight; we're trying to get them to become more muscular and carry less body fat."

Defensive tackle Kenny Walker is the current Mr. Lean of the team with



**Boyd Epley is concerned that too much body fat could hurt a player's power.**



## HUSKER POWER IS NO. 1 AGAIN

only about 4 percent fat. Walker and most players on the team don't have a problem, and probably won't figure among the leaders in the contest. "Somebody who has a problem will have the greatest opportunity to win. Those are the ones we're most interested in helping anyway," he said.

At the Husker training table, the cafeteria for players, signs have been placed above the food items listing their fat and protein content. A bright orange color denotes fat, and Epley and trainer George Sullivan, who supervises the training table, are hoping players see orange as their dietary stop signal.

"Kids have always been told that if they want to be football players they need to eat, eat, eat and get big, big, big," said Sullivan. "We're trying a little behavioral modification."

About 20 players have been identified as needing attention, and with the help of Julie Sherwood of the university medical center's Swanson Center for Nutrition, each has been given a specific nutritional game plan.

Good food has always been available at the training table, but the athletes weren't always making the wisest choices, said Epley. It's doubly important for football players, he added, because they can consume between 5,000 and 6,000 calories a day, more than four times what a normal person might consume.

The Huskers are also continuing an experiment with protein supplements produced by Protein Technologies, a division of the noted pet food producer, Ralston Purina. The products, which can be drunk or eaten like a snack, are high in protein but lower in fat and cholesterol than other high-protein products.

Last summer and fall, 10 Husker players tested the products. Epley said the results were encouraging — the players lost weight but gained muscle mass. They were leaner and stronger. NU swimming coach Cal Bentz has also seen improvement in his athletes who have used the product.

"That's what he thinks is giving him the edge," said Epley, who said Nebraska will probably continue to act as the exclusive testing lab for the products based on the early, encouraging results.

It's moving time at the Nebraska weightlifting complex under the west grandstands at Memorial Stadium.

Boxes are filling the aisles, and in the upstairs office of Boyd Epley, the battle plans are being mapped out on the walls.

In mid-April, workers are to begin a \$1.7 million renovation of the strength complex that is scheduled to be completed in January of 1990.

The weightlifting area will be more than tripled in size, from 13,300 to about 30,000 square feet, and once again become the nation's largest strength complex. The work will also create more study and office space in the adjacent Hewit Center for academics, and create offices for the athletic department's development and fund raising efforts led by Cletus Fischer.

The move is also creating some headaches for Epley, who must find temporary quarters for 20,000 pounds of weightlifting gear and the computerized offices that chart the progress of Husker players.

The northwest fieldhouse addition, built seven years ago, will become the temporary home of Husker Power for next football season. It isn't air conditioned, which might prove uncomfortable this summer, and something will have to be done to control the large amount of static electricity produced in the addition. (Static electricity disrupts the computers; a trailer might have to be rented to house that portion of the offices.) But Epley said the inconveniences will be worth it.

The new weightlifting complex will be larger and more versatile. A 40-foot strip of artificial turf will allow speed and agility work in the complex, and there'll be more room for aerobic workouts, which are important for athletes recovering from surgery.

"It's going to be a much safer environment, especially for the

back-type of lifting which is very explosive lifting," said Epley. One athlete once broke a mirror because the current area for doing back lifts was too small, he said.

And the new complex will have a glass-enclosed hallway that will link the strength complex with the Hewit Center and training table on the other end of the West Stadium.

Visitors will be able to tour the weight complex without disturbing athletes concentrating on their last repetition of lifts, Epley said, and it will no longer be necessary to go outside to visit the academic study hall or training table in the West Stadium.

Not a big deal? Think again.

"In February, when you're trying to recruit an athlete from Southern California walking outside is not the best idea in the world," Epley said. "The more you can stay inside, the better it will be."

Financing for the project came from non-university sources. Revenue from the 1988 Kickoff Classic and a \$500,000 gift from Dan Cook, a NU graduate and now a Dallas, Tex., banker, started the ball rolling. Gifts from the Hewit and Boekel families, and another from the family of former NU All-America noseguard Wayne Meylan, filled up the coffers.

The current strength complex was the world's largest when it opened in 1981. Since then, however, Texas A&M passed the Huskers.

Epley said he's not trying to make the Husker weight room the world's largest, but that space for expansion became available in the West Stadium when the university stores offices moved out and well, it just so happens Nebraska will be No. 1 again.

It'll be a nice facility, he said, and the last time it will be expanded (there's no more room under the west stands).

Now if that moving van would just hurry up. . . .

It's all part of the grand, new plan. Epley said you can expect some more Mr. Lean contests after the initial test ends in April. The results should start showing up on the football field next fall.

The idea is to build a better football player — not necessarily a larger player — just faster and more powerful.

You can read the new password of the Big Red strength program on Boyd Epley's lips: "Lean and mean." ■



*Q: I have heard that walkon recruiting went fairly well this spring. Do you feel this is so? I know there was some concern last year about players passing up a chance to play for Nebraska and taking small-school scholarships instead. Also, do you recruit walkons for specific positions or simply try to get the best athlete available? **Allan McGuire, Topeka, Kan.***

**A:** I think our walkon recruiting has been better this year than it has been for the past three or four years, for whatever reason I don't know. We worked at it pretty hard this year, of course, but we try to do that most every year. Dan Young really focused on the in-state prospects this year, and I think it paid off. We felt we had six or seven players as walkons who I'm sure would have in a lot of situations received Division II or I-AA scholarships or maybe even I-A in certain situations. Those kinds of people are going to help us. I guess we look at a combination of best athlete and also specific positions. We're trying to recruit a complete freshman team so that we end up with about 60 players for the junior varsity team each year. So, you'll want a couple of quarterbacks, two or three running backs, several linemen and so forth and so on. And yet you try to look at talent, too. So there's a point where we're going to cut off the walkon recruiting just because of numbers. And for that reason alone, we do take some players who are more just athletes, who can play a number of positions for us.

In recent years we have gone more and more to redshirting some of the scholarship players, so I would assume that about half of the 22 incoming scholarship freshmen will be redshirted or play on the varsity. That means you've only got about 10 or 11 scholarship players playing junior varsity football on a regular basis. Obviously, it's important to have some great walkon players in order to fill out the freshman team. Occasionally, we will have a walkon player who plays ahead of a scholarship player anyway — he's just a better player.

*Q: Do you think it would help relieve some of the academic pressures surrounding Proposition 48 and Proposal*



*42 in college athletics if freshmen were not allowed to play their first year? Do you think a rule like this might pass someday soon? **Derrick Winefield, Ashland, Neb.***

**A:** I think the best thing for the athletes as a whole would be to have freshmen ineligible like it used to be. That year of sitting out gives them a chance to adjust to college life and removes a lot of the demand on their time. I think most coaches would agree with that, but as long as there is a 25-95 scholarship limit, so many programs just don't have enough players to get much accomplished, and they'll need to use freshmen just to get by. If you've got 25 freshman scholarship players and your scholarship cap is 95, that means you're left with 70 players on scholarship, and not all of those are ready to play. Some will get hurt, some will fall aside because of academics and some just won't reach a competitive level. That means you'll probably have a hard time playing a game unless you have additional scholarships. I think most coaches who feel like they want to make freshmen ineligible would like to see maybe an extra 10 scholarships, so that you might go to 30-110 or something like that. It's possible that could happen, if enough people are concerned about academics and some of the other things that have happened in college athletics. I think there's a chance it might happen, but I just don't know right now. They'd have to change the rule, and you're talking about additional money. However, everything seems to be going counter to that right now.

*Q: In light of the recent penalty handed down to Oklahoma by the NCAA, what are your thoughts as to ensuring these violations do not occur in other schools? Would you support sanctions against the coaches as opposed to the school? In other words, if Coach Barry Switzer were given a three-year suspension, as well as the responsible assistant coaches, do you think the frequency of violations would decrease? **Loren Zimmerman, West Covina, Calif.***

**A:** I think it might be a step in the right direction. Of course, there are all kinds of violations, some where coaches are directly involved, some where coaches aren't involved. But I think where coaches are directly involved, I certainly think they should be penalized. It's a very complex issue, though, and you would have to look at the other angles. Would you also put suspensions on boosters? On the players themselves? Relatives of the players? A lot of people — in different walks of life — have been cited for violations over the years. It would be a difficult issue to address, but, yes, I think it would be a step in the right direction to hold responsible parties accountable.

*Q: When you watch football on television in your spare time, do you watch the games with a critical eye from a coach's point of view, or do you watch just for the fun of it? What part of the game do you play closest attention to? The line of scrimmage? Defense? Offense? Special teams? **Bob Barber, Sherman, Texas***

**A:** I don't get a chance to watch a whole lot of football because of our own season, but when we have a break, I'll watch a lot of football when I have a chance. I guess I don't try to watch it any particular way. I try to watch it for the enjoyment. Obviously, if you're a coach you look at a television game a little differently from the average fan. But I don't watch just one area of the game.

*If you have questions for Coach Osborne, address them to "Ask Tom Osborne," P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501. ■*





## LEE'S FORD-MERCURY

NEW AND USED CARS & TRUCKS  
FULL PARTS & SERVICE  
RENT-A-CAR

**"It Pays To Drive To Ashland"**

1602 SILVER STREET, ASHLAND, NE

789-7155 • LINCOLN

342-6767 • OMAHA

944-3367 • ASHLAND



## ASHLAND STATE BANK

COMPLETE MODERN BANKING FACILITIES  
CHECKING & SAVINGS ACCOUNTS  
SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES • ALL TYPES OF LOANS  
VISA & MASTERCARD • SAVINGS CERTIFICATES  
DRIVE-IN BANKING

**"You Really Rate At Ashland State"**

2433 SILVER STREET, ASHLAND, NE

944-2111 • ASHLAND

341-5123 • OMAHA



## LEE SAPP LEASING

LEASING PLANS TAILORED TO FIT YOUR NEEDS  
DAY — WEEK — MONTH — LONG TERM

9902 SOUTH 148th STREET

OMAHA, NE 68138

402/895-3113



## LEE SAPP INSURANCE

COMPLETE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR  
HOME — AUTO — BUSINESS — LIFE — HEALTH

9904 SOUTH 148th STREET

OMAHA, NE 68138

402/895-0990







Gene Keller  
Lincoln  
(402) 476-8575



Marilyn L. McClain  
Council Bluffs, Iowa  
(712) 325-0126



R.W. "Dick" Bailey, CLU  
Grand Island  
(308) 382-0385



Lyle W. Japp, CLU, ChFC  
Omaha  
(402) 496-6400



Doug Novak  
Crete  
(402) 826-5055



Joe Wittwer  
Falls City  
(402) 245-4688



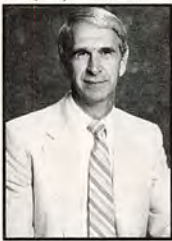
Dwain F. Wiegand  
Omaha  
(402) 496-6400



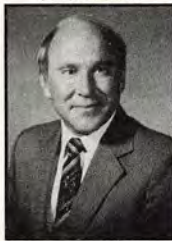
Michel L. Rinehart  
Fairbury  
(402) 729-3339



Raymond R. Solee  
Lincoln  
(402) 476-8575



M. Lee Hunefeld  
Omaha  
(402) 496-6400



Ron Rapp, CLU, RHU  
South Sioux City  
(402) 494-3003



Phyllis J. Andreasen  
Oakland  
(402) 685-6282



Stan A. Andreasen  
Oakland  
(402) 685-6282



Stefan G. Jenkins  
CLU, ChFC  
Omaha: (402) 496-6400



Chris B. Krause  
CLU, ChFC  
Valley: (402) 359-2575



Joe Vlock, CLU, ChFC  
Omaha  
(402) 496-6400



Karl L. Kollmorgen  
Lincoln  
(402) 476-8575



Roger W. Penland  
Omaha  
(402) 496-6400



Timothy R. Roewert  
Omaha  
(402) 496-6400



Brad D. Tomek  
Omaha  
(402) 496-6400



David M. LeGrand  
Nebraska City  
(402) 873-7477



Anne-Marie Bobst  
Hastings  
(402) 462-8366



Daniel R. Ewers  
O'Neill (402) 336-4245  
St. Paul (308) 754-4749



Chris M. Wadhams  
Lincoln  
(402) 488-2682



Hal D. Haeker  
Alma  
(308) 928-2900



Virgil C. Wadhams  
Lincoln  
(402) 488-9092



Darryl B. Hunter  
Lincoln  
(402) 476-8575



Kermit R. Erickson  
Arcadia  
(308) 789-6507

**To make sure that you and your family reach your financial goals, let us help you draw up a winning game plan. A game plan that will assure your family's financial security, protect you against the high cost of illness, and build funds — tax sheltered — for a more comfortable retirement.**

**Call today. Helping you become a financial winner is our full-time career.**

**These are some of the many New York Life Agents in this area — all good people to know.**

#### Lincoln General Office:

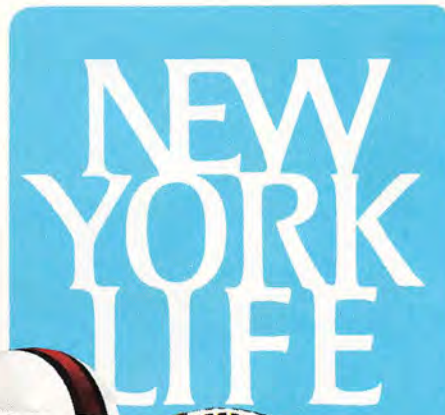
Ken R. Wilson, General Manager  
Cindy Roquette, Office Manager  
Donald Hunter, Sales Manager  
Cheryl A. Kefuss, Training Supervisor  
1506 FirstTier Building  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
(402) 476-8575

#### Nebraska General Office:

Jerry L. Roberts, General Manager  
Paul R. Hogan, CLU, Office Manager  
Gary D. Phillips, Sales Manager  
Eloy S. Arellano, Sales Manager  
David A. Skutnik, Sales Manager  
William Stott, Jr., Sales Manager  
James H. Moore, CLU, ChFC, Training Manager  
Phillip L. Bowers, CLU, ChFC Training Supervisor  
11506 Nicholas, Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68154  
(402) 496-6400

#### Sioux City General Office:

Mel Adema, General Manager  
George W. Molesworth, CLU, Office Manager  
Fred Hahne, CLU, Sales Manager  
Dick Peschau, Sales Manager  
Greg Jensen, Sales Manager  
Pat O'Roarke, Sales Manager  
Don Means, Training Manager  
Larry Lindstrom, Training Supervisor  
600 Fourth Street, Suite 900  
Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
(712) 279-8800



# New York Life. For all of your life.

**Life, Health, Disability Income, Group Insurance, Annuities, Pension Plans.**